

## Israel under fire at IMF talks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Arab delegates to the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank meeting Wednesday criticised Israel's arbitrary policies in the occupied territories. Speaking on behalf of the Arab group, Mohammed Issa, Syria's minister of economy and foreign trade, also said eight Arab countries are implementing or negotiating policies in their economies with the IMF in order to become eligible for more loans. He did not name the countries, but IMF officials said they are: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Jordan, Sudan, Egypt and Somalia. "We deplore Israel's arbitrary policies in the occupied Arab territories which have continued to weaken the economic base, hamper growth and disrupt the structure of production in these territories," Issa said. Seeking to adjust to the decline in world oil prices, Arab countries have embarked on reforms that include "substantial cuts in their public expenditures" as well as adopting measures to enhance the growth of the private sector, Issa said.

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الجordan تابع عن المؤسسة الصحافية الأردنية الرأي

## Tunisia prime minister replaced

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia President Zine Al Abidine Ibn Ali sacked his first prime minister Wednesday after a cabinet row over the pace of economic reform and appointed Justice Minister Hamed Karoui in his place. Karoui, a 61-year-old ruling party stalwart, said in his first statement after the dismissal of Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche that the president had asked him to tackle unemployment and the social costs of change. Government sources said Ibn Ali thought that the political and economic reform process he began on taking office two years ago had started to falter under the guidance of Baccouche. "It's a breath of fresh air. Tunisia needs new momentum across the board, especially in the economy and in the process of democratisation," an official source told reporters. Baccouche had been prime minister since November 1987, when Ibn Ali removed Tunisia's first president, Habib Bourguiba, from power on grounds of senility. Under the Tunisian constitution, a cabinet reshuffle need not necessarily follow the dismissal of Baccouche but Ibn Ali could take the opportunity to appoint new ministers.



An Israeli soldier opens fire at Palestinian demonstrators in the West Bank as another soldier (left) plugs his ears

## Israeli group slams house demolitions

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — An Israeli research group Wednesday criticised the government's policy of demolishing the homes of Palestinians as "a violation of human rights and international law."

Researcher Ronny Talmor told a news conference that 236 houses were demolished and 98 were sealed shut by the army to punish Palestinians since the start of the uprising against Israeli rule 21 months ago.

In addition, she said, parts of 60 other homes were destroyed or sealed.

"In the West Bank, only in about one per cent of the cases the suspect had been convicted prior to the demolition," she said. "In the Gaza Strip, about 10 per cent of the demolitions were carried out after a conviction."

The research group, the Israel Information Centre for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories, said in its report that "no serious attempt was made by the government to determine whether house demolition is a deterrent against security offenses."

It concluded: "Even if the de-

fense authorities could prove correlation... it could not justify such a violation of human rights and international law."

The information centre was founded by liberal Israelis last year to monitor human rights violations in the occupied lands.

According to army statistics, 233 houses were destroyed and 104 sealed through July, including parts of some homes.

The army on Wednesday sealed the home of two Palestinians in the Gaza Strip, Mahmoud Seeyam of Gaza City and Kasseem Radwan Karim of Tufas, saying they were accused of belonging to uprising committees and attacking alleged collaborators with Israel.

Fifteen people lived in the three-room house owned by Seeyam, reporters said. They said Seeyam's 21-year-old son, Eyhab, was arrested three months ago for alleged uprising activities.

Israel's house demolition policy previously has drawn criticism from international human rights groups and the U.S. government, which said the policy "contravenes the Fourth Geneva Con-

vention" on protection of people in occupied lands.

The Israeli policy is based on a rule enacted by the British in 1945 in Palestine and has been upheld by the Israeli supreme court.

On July 30, the court for the first time restricted the army's use of demolitions by ruling that Palestinians must be given 48 hours to appeal demolition orders to the military and more time for court appeals.

Asked what he would recommend, he said "capital punishment."

### Expulsion to continue'

Joshua Schaffman of the Association for Civil Rights in Israel, which brought the court case, told the news conference Wednesday that "we have good reason to believe it will reduce the number" of houses destroyed.

But he added: "All we've won is some sort of due process. That doesn't solve the problem."

Schaffman described house demolitions as "an illegitimate form of punishment that doesn't exist anywhere else in the world."

Meanwhile, Ehud Olmert, the cabinet minister responsible for Arab affairs, said Tuesday that Israel should consider imposing the death penalty for "security"

offences in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Olmert told reporters that he believed the uprising was continuing because "the punishments applied until now are not deterrent enough... and therefore maybe we should consider perhaps somewhat harsher punishment."

The committee will hold monthly meetings and its deci-

sions will be binding on all public and private institutions, the agency said. Violators of its decisions and rulings will be prosecuted according to existing public safety regulations, it added.

The formation of the panel comes in wake of at least three incidents which threatened or could have had serious repercussions on public health.

The first was a chemical gas leak at a factory in Zarqa last week in which over 100 people were affected by chlorine. No fatalities or serious injuries were reported. Officials said the plant involved was not following safety

regulations laid down by the authorities. The Kingdom's top

leadership has ordered a country-wide inspection of similar facilities to avert the recurrence of such incidents.

The second case was the police crackdown on a smuggling operation of unprocessed raw fat transported in sewage trucks. At least 14 commercial establishments were ordered closed and 95 suspects have been detained, according to a Ministry of Interior statement issued earlier this week.

Laboratory tests have found that the raw fat was not fit for human consumption, but no names of involved firms of products have been released so far.

Subsequent reports on the fat smuggling case, a steep slump

has been reported in demand in the market for local products involving vegetable oil and shortening, including confectioneries and pastries as well as potato chips. Mothers have opted for alternate snacks for their children's breakfast at school. Even some of the most popular items are being shunned, reports indicate.

The third incident was a food poisoning case at the University of Jordan Hospital cafeteria. The minister of health, Zuhair Malhas, said Wednesday that tests have found that a particular type of bacteria caused the food poisoning, which affected over 150 people. (see story below).

## High-powered committee to ensure public safety

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — In the wake of a series of incidents that affected public health and posed environmental hazards, the government Wednesday announced the formation of a special high-powered committee entrusted with the task of ensuring public safety.

The Jordan news agency, Petra, said Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker formed the committee under the chairmanship of deputy prime minister and Interior Minister Salem Mass'adeh. The panel comprises the ministers of health, social development, energy and mineral resources, municipal and rural affairs, water and irrigation, culture and information, industry and trade, and labour, the minister of state for cabinet affairs, the mayor of Greater Amman Municipality and the directors-general of the National Medical Institution, the Civil Defence Department, the Public Security Department, and the Royal Medical Services.

"The committee was entrusted with the task of improving environmental conditions, monitoring food and water sources, preserving public safety, and combating diseases and epidemics," Petra said.

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Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker

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## Bush expects nuclear treaty

WASHINGTON (Agencies)

— President George Bush said Wednesday there was "a good likelihood" that the United States and Soviet Union will be ready to sign a treaty cutting strategic nuclear arsenals by the time a superpower summit is held in late spring or early summer.

Bush said the scheduling of the summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev "will serve as a catalyst for moving forward" on a treaty but that "it's not a given."

"It's not absolutely certain that that's going to happen, but I would have to agree (there is) a good likelihood that that might happen," Bush said in an interview with a small group of reporters in his White House office.

He also restated U.S. opposition to a ban on nuclear testing, saying it was important that the United States have the capability to test the weapons in its arsenal.

Asked about a report that Colombian drug lords had threatened to kidnap one of his five children unless granted amnesty, Bush said, "I have not heard that and I feel confident I would have if there'd been what I call 'hard intelligence.'

He confirmed that security had been increased around his four sons and one daughter but said it was not in response to what he called "a hard threat."

Expressing confidence in the secret service's ability to protect his family, Bush said, "I don't live in fear of anything like that... I can't do my job if I get deterred by rumours."

Bush balked at a Soviet proposal to go beyond the plan he outlined earlier this week at the United Nations for deep cuts in superpower chemical weapon stockpiles.

Asked if he would accept the Kremlin's offer to eliminate all poison gas from U.S. and Soviet arsenals, Bush said, "No. Absolutely not. We need a certain sense of deterrence."

Bush has proposed an 80 per cent cutback in the U.S. arsenal if the Soviet Union will cut back an equal amount. The president also is pushing for an international treaty to eliminate chemical weapons.

Bush said he was pleased that the United States and Soviet Union are enjoying better relations, but he said that was no reason for the United States to relax militarily.

"I don't want to do something naive or silly just because we're working closely with the Soviets today," the president said.

Yazov to visit U.S.

Soviet Defence Minister Dmitri Yazov will visit the United States next week in another sign of warming relations between the superpowers, U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said Wednesday.

Pentagon officials said Yazov would visit Washington, and probably other areas of the United States from Oct. 1 to 6. He will arrive Sunday and be greeted by Cheney on Monday with a Pentagon ceremony and lunch.

Cheney told a news conference the Soviet Union was still a major military power. (see page 8).

## OPEC reaches flawed accord

GENEVA (Agencies) — Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) ministers ended five days of talks in Geneva with a flawed oil output quota accord that did not look as if it would help much to strengthen prices.

A Christian source, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the AP Aoun had "passed the message to several parliamentary deputies" amid a flurry of meetings between Christian and Muslim military leaders and legislators in advance of the Taif meeting.

The Al Sharq daily accused Aoun of "obstructing the peace process by bringing pressure to bear on legislators not to attend the meeting in Saudi Arabia."

The plan envisages a Syrian withdrawal from Beirut and the redeployment of Syrian troops in eastern Lebanon but only once a new president and government are elected under a reformed political system.

In Paris, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was quoted Wednesday as saying Syria had no right to keep its forces in Lebanon.

Aoun told reporters that Christian deputies due to join the talks in the Saudi mountain resort of Taif should insist that a timetable is set for a Syrian withdrawal from Lebanon before any session of the proposed reforms.

The ceasefire which came into force last Saturday ended six months of shelling between Aoun's forces and Syria and its allies in which more than 800 were killed and large parts of Beirut and the mountains surrounding it were devastated.

Aoun said that he had been forced to accept the seven-point peace plan last Friday. Asked if it was doomed to failure, Aoun said: "It is blocked."

He said the plan was deadlocked after a statement by Syrian Vice President Abdul Hafiz Khaddam that no Syrian troops would leave before political re-

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# 2 Middle East News

## Afghan rebel leader acknowledges mistakes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Afghanistan's guerrillas, disappointed that U.S.-supplied munitions dwindled after Soviet forces left their country, wonder if Americans have lost interest in backing them to victory in their freedom struggle, according to a guerrilla commander.

"I am sorry to say some kind of mistrust has arisen," Brigadier Rahmatullah Safi said Tuesday.

He said the feeling now among the guerrillas is that "Americans

are very good people, but they leave you in the middle of the road ... instead of showing friendship to the end."

"The end of the road" for the guerrillas and several million Afghan refugees in neighbouring countries will be victory in the form of a legal Muslim government acceptable to the people of Afghanistan to replace President Najibullah's Communists ruling in Kabul, he said.

He is currently head of intelligence for the National Islamic Front of Afghanistan, one of

Interception of U.S. ammunition and weapons supplies as the Soviets beat up the Afghan government in Kabul caused military setbacks and loss of confidence, he said.

But "at the moment there is no problem in the supply... We are satisfied with the continuation," said Safi, visiting Washington for talks with U.S. officials.

On early U.S. visits, while his homeland was still occupied by the Red Army, "We are met by congressmen, rich people, who

were more moderate of seven guerrilla groups trying to achieve unity under the framework of the U.S.-backed Afghan Interim Government. The U.S. government has said it will back the interim government in efforts to oust the Najibullah government while also searching for a political solution.

As for Najibullah "he will not survive," said Safi.

It was unrealistic, however, for U.S. officials to predict Najibullah's quick collapse in Kabul, or seizure by the guerrillas of the town of Jalalabad in eastern Afghanistan, he said. "It is foolish to give a timetable. General Eisenhower, General Montgomery never gave timetables," he said, naming successful U.S. and British commanders of World War II.

U.S. officials have not acknowledged cutting support to the guerrillas after the Soviet departure. Published reports said the Central Intelligence Agency offi-



cial responsible for the operation was replaced and supplies were diverted to new channels within the country instead of the old route through Pakistan-based fac-

Safi said Soviet weapons pro-

vided government forces after the Red Army withdrawal included MiG 27 jets and truck-mounted Oerlikon missiles.

## Turkey asks immigrants from Bulgaria to carry hard currency on arrival

ANKARA (AP) — Turkey now requires ethnic Turkish immigrants from Bulgaria to carry hard currency when they enter this country, a Foreign Ministry official has said.

Forhat Ataman, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, said every adult ethnic Turk arriving with a 15-day tourist visa must have \$1,050 or the equivalent in hard-currency. He said children under 18 must have at least \$750.

Ataman said the requirement, which went into effect on Sept. 14, aims to prevent the abuse of the rights of ethnic Turks by the Bulgarian government "which introduces them as tourists visiting Turkey when they are in fact emigrants escaping Bulgaria."

He said the Bulgarian government allowed the ethnic Turks to travel to Turkey with only about \$20 a person.

The amounts now required by Turkey were determined on the basis of reasonable expenditures during a 15-day stay in Turkey, he said.

Ataman said more than 300,000 immigrants arrived in Turkey in the three months before Aug. 21, when Turkey began requiring visas from ethnic Turks.

He denied Bulgarian charges that the new regulation is a violation of a visa agreement between the two countries.

"It has never been witnessed before that people carrying

household goods, like TV sets or beds, are paying a tourist trip to a neighbouring country," he said.

Ataman said if any of the im-

migrants want to return to Bul-

garia before 15 days, they will be

allowed to take the rest of their

foreign currency back to Bul-

garia.

In May, Bulgaria started de-

porting ethnic Turks after sub-

jecting them to a forced assimila-

tion campaign that included

changing their Turkish names to

Slavic ones and banning Islamic

rites and use of the Turkish lan-

guage.

The deportations grew into an

exodus as the ethnic Turks were

permitted to acquire passports

and leave the country. Turkey,

having problems in settling the

immigrants, started the visa re-

quirement to stem the flood.

Only about 1,000 ethnic Turks

have arrived since then.

More than 20,000 ethnic Turks

have returned to Bulgaria after a

short stay because of a lack of

housing and jobs.

Turkey wants talks with Bul-

garia on an immigration agree-

ment that would protect the

ethnic Turks' legal rights, includ-

ing social security benefits, com-

pensation for property left behind,

and restoration of minority rights

to those who remain in Bulgaria.

Bulgaria has been insisting on

an open agenda.

## Important arbitration conference opens in Amman next month

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Committee preparing for the Arab-Arab arbitration conference which will be held in Amman next month under Royal patronage has urged Jordanian lawyers and economists to take part in the deliberations.

Dr. Hamzeh Haddad, member of the committee said in a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the conference would boost efforts to settle commercial disputes among nations through arbitration. The conference will no doubt have beneficial results on the Arab arbitration system and enhance the concept of arbitration that is helping Arab courts with their work, Haddad noted.

Such agreements, he said, would be enhanced in the confer-

ence and its results.

The coming conference, Haddad added, has been organised by the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce in cooperation with the Arab European Chamber of Commerce.

According to Haddad, at least 300 Arab and foreign delegates

will take part in the meeting.

Haddad said that the Arab League states are already linked through a number of arbitration agreements including the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation which was concluded in 1975, and another agreement signed by Arab states in 1989 to settle commercial disputes through arbitration.

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## Prison term sought for Israeli peace campaigner

RAMLE (R) — An Israeli pro-secutor demanded a tough prison term for veteran peace campaigner Abie Nathan for meeting Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat last year in violation of an anti-terrorist law.

A magistrate in Ramle convicted the 62-year-old broadcaster of breaking a 1986 law which many Israelis believe is fast becoming outdated as traditional barriers crumble between them-selves but are awaiting the outcome of high court appeals.

Israeli-Palestinian contacts have surged in the 21 months of the uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Despite the ban on PLO contacts, even rightist Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, campaigning for Palestinian elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, acknowledged PLO supporters could be elected.

Nathan told the court: "All I wanted to do was to prepare the groundwork which will enable the government to talk to them. I want to continue in my way to fight against this anti-democratic law but this is not a law from the Bible."

"This is a law made by politicians which does not take into account the changes which have occurred in the last three or four years. The Bible tells us to love thy neighbour as thyself. I don't know how to love my neighbour without talking to him."

Iranian-born Nathan, a former air force pilot, was jailed in 1968 for 40 days after hijacking a plane to Egypt, backed by 100,000 Israeli petitioners. A court said he broke a law that against Israelis entering Arab countries.

He has since continued his campaign for Arab-Israeli peace and raised money to help overseas victims of drought and earthquakes.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### Iraq bans throwing money around in clubs

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has banned night club patrons from throwing their cash around. It says the custom humiliates the national currency. Baghdad newspapers said the Interior Ministry warned of harsh punishment against anyone who threw money at dancers and other entertainers. Police had been ordered to keep watch on clubs and cabarets and arrest those "who practice such deviated discipline," the papers said, adding that the ministry would close venues which flouted the new rules. "Such practices stand counter to public morals and manners, humiliate national Iraqi currency and harass feelings of other people," the paper quoted the ministry as saying.

### Families to seek clemency for Sudan bombers

LONDON (R) — Relatives of five Britons killed in terror attacks against five convicted Palestinians to be condemned. Sudan's supreme court asked the relatives Tuesday to make the final judgment after changing death sentence on the five men to a section of law which gives victims' relatives the power to decide the fate of murderers. Under the legal clause, relatives of the dead can insist that killers be executed, pardon them or demand blood money in return for their lives. The two British families whose relatives died in machinegun and grenade attacks on a Khartoum hotel and club in May 1988 are expected to meet to discuss the matter although they told reporters the Sudanese had not yet formally approached them. Seven people were killed and 21 were wounded in the attacks. The dead Britons were 32-year-old charity worker Sally Rockett and a family of four — Christopher Roffe, his wife Clare and their two children aged three and one. Rockett's parents, retired music teacher Ken Rockett and his wife Ruth, said they would probably ask the Sudanese authorities to jail the bombers for "a long time." Christopher Roffe's brother Paul, a social worker, said his family was confused and was still awaiting formal word from the Sudanese government before making a response. He was already written to Khartoum asking for the death sentence to be commuted.

### Sudan protests publicity for Garang

HARERE (R) — A diplomatic row has erupted between Sudan and Zimbabwe over red-carpet treatment and publicity given to visiting Sudanese rebel leader Colonel John Garang. Garang leads the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) which has waged a six-year war from Sudan's south against successive governments in the north. Garang, who arrived in Harare at the weekend, met President Robert Mugabe Monday and was later featured on state television with Foreign Minister Nathan Shamuyarira.

## Qadhafi urges end to inter-Muslim violence

ROME (AP) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has described Muslim against Muslim violence and said guns, bombs and extremism should only be used to fight the enemies of Islam.

The official Libyan News Agency (JANA), monitored in Rome, said Qadhafi told an Islamic seminar in Tripoli that fighting between Muslim factions only benefits the enemies of the faith.

Islam today gathers a "multitude of contradicting movements..." said Qadhafi, "some of which we made, some the Americans made and some were made by the Mossad or the KGB."

He said the movements include

a fundamentalist faction that wants to return to the basics of Islam, to resurrect the religion and keep its traditions, morals and customs and

Another faction has taken "a secret, violent, terrorist and extremist trend," said Qadhafi, speaking of groups that carry out attacks against other Muslims for reasons of power or wealth.

"If such extremism was against the enemies of Islam, then we all must be extremists and choose violence against the Israels to liberate the Holy Land and Palestine... against the Americans and against the enemies of Islam to stop them where they are."

JANA said Qadhafi told more than 250 Muslim clerics, thinkers, activists and leaders from 48 countries, who came to Tripoli for the seminar sponsored by the World Council for Islamic Call and the Organisation of Islamic Conference, that Muslim infighting threatens the faith.

"If you were able to sacrifice, you should sacrifice on the Golan (Heights). Do not sacrifice in the streets of Damascus... If we turned Islam into a secret work and into bombs and explosives, then that means we are bombing Islam..." said Qadhafi.

"This religion is dying if it resorts to bombs, guns, knives..." said Qadhafi.

## Spanish-Moroccan ties warm up



MADRID (AP) — Spain and Morocco have agreed to hold annual summits between its heads of government, a practice Madrid had previously limited to its European Community (EC) partners.

The decision aimed at placing the two countries' often rocky relations on a firmer footing came as King Hassan II ended a three-day state visit to Spain, the first to his neighbour across the Strait of Gibraltar since he assumed the throne in 1961.

Officials also signed to step up military cooperation, guarantee Spanish investments in Morocco and to continue feasibility studies on the construction of a fixed link under or over the strait to connect Europe and Africa.

Signs for Morocco, Foreign Minister Abdul Latif Filali, said the event made "a historic day in Spanish-Moroccan relations."

He said the military agreement "establishes a neighbourly dialogue on strategy in the region and creates a spirit of cooperation between both armies."

Spanish Secretary for International Cooperation Luis Yanez said the accord "institutionalise our relations at the highest

level... and have repercussions not only for Spain and Morocco but for the (12-nation) European Economic Community and the five-nation Arab Maghreb Union."

In the past, relations between Morocco and Spain have been hampered by Morocco's persistent claims for sovereignty over Ceuta and Melilla, the two Spanish enclaves on Morocco's northern coast held since the 16th century.

Spain administered what is now northern Morocco under an

agreement with the French, who established a protectorate there in 1912. Morocco became independent in 1956 under Hassan's father, Mohammed V.

Meanwhile, Hassan earned praise from 15 leaders of the Spanish Jewish community, many of whom were born and once lived in Morocco, for protecting Jewish patrimony and encouraging religious tolerance in his country.

The importance of the Spanish-

## CHURCHES

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Anglican Church of God Church, Tel. 632785  
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AMMAN: Dr. Saleh Zayed ..... 790677  
Abdul Telephone Repair ..... 651101

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 320-3200-3, where it should always be verified.

#### HOSPITALS

#### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

11:45 ..... Rome (RJ)

13:00 ..... London (RJ)

13:15

# National News

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28-29, 1989 3

## NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

**BADRAN VISITS SUKAINA GIRLS SCHOOL:** Minister of Education Adnan Badran Wednesday made an inspection visit to Sukaina girls school in Amman and was briefed on training programmes on computers. The minister also visited the laboratory section and watched experiments conducted by secondary students. At a meeting later with the staff, the minister praised the teachers' efforts and underlined the importance of the school administration's role in the educational process. Badran also visited the school library and the domestic science unit and urged the staff to give special attention to vocational training courses. (Petra)

**SAKET ISSUES CIRCULAR:** Minister of Agriculture Bassam Al Saket Wednesday issued a circular to all agricultural departments in the Kingdom to ensure that owners of agricultural nurseries abide by ministry regulations when importing plants to avoid bringing in plant diseases that could adversely affect agriculture in the country. Importers of plants and fruit tree saplings should abide by regulations requiring special licences from the ministry and its departments, said the minister in his circular. He said that special certificates should testify that the imported plants and saplings are germ free and issued from the country supplying the products. He said sufficient information about the plants along with the price should be attached to all types displayed for sale at the nurseries. (Petra)

**GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS ENVOY'S NOMINATION:** The Jordanian government has accepted the nomination of Mohammad Sharif Kharroubi as Algerian ambassador to Jordan. Kharroubi would succeed Mohammad Bergham who had served as ambassador for Algeria since 1986. (Petra)

**NEW PUBLIC GARDENS IN AMMAN:** The Cabinet Wednesday announced its decision to allow Greater Amman Municipality to utilise wooded areas within the municipality boundaries to create public gardens. It said that the Department of Afforestation will maintain its technical supervisory role over the tree-planting processes in these gardens. (Petra)

**BASHAIREH MEETS STUDENTS:** Ministry of Higher Education's Secretary General Ahmad Bashaireh met Wednesday with a group of students who won scholarships to study in the Soviet colleges and universities, to brief them on the general social situation in the Soviet Union and matters related to education and living conditions. Bashaireh urged the Jordanian students to serve as good ambassadors for Jordan in the friendly nation. (Petra)

**KEILANI RECEIVES FRENCH ENVOY:** Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Keilani Wednesday discussed with French Ambassador to Jordan Dennis Bouchard scopes of cooperation in the field of water and irrigation. (Petra)

**NO CONTAMINATED FAT IN AQABA:** Aqaba is free from contaminated fat and the concerned authorities in Aqaba district are alert ever since reports surfaced on this subject, the Aqaba Health Department director said. He added that health control would continue to make sure that health conditions are met. Employees of the Aqaba Health Department Wednesday made an inspection tour of a number of restaurants, bakeries, commercial stores, hotels and institutions dealing with foodstuff. (Petra)

**N. YEMENI STUDENT TEAM ARRIVES:** A 35-member student delegation from Sana'a University, in North Yemen, visited Yarmouk University Wednesday within the framework of cooperation between the two universities. (Petra)

**INDUSTRIAL LAW VIOLATOR JAILED:** The military court Wednesday sentenced Ibrahim Abdulla Khashan to one month imprisonment and the payment of a JD 100 fine for violating regulations concerning industrial specifications and standards. The military governor endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

**POLLING CENTRES IN KARAK, AJLOUN:** The local authorities in Karak in southern Jordan have assigned 36 polling centres for voters in the coming parliamentary elections. The stations are within the Karak Governorate but are divided into two sections, one for males and the other for females. In Ajloun in northern Jordan, a total of 71 polling centres have been assigned by the local authorities for voting in the Nov. 8 elections.

**MERCHANTS CAN IMPORT GARLIC, DATES:** The Agricultural Marketing Organisation announced Wednesday that Jordanian merchants can export all types of vegetables and fruit in the coming month and can only import garlic and dates which are in short supply in Jordan. The organisation also allowed the Jordan Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company to import potatoes and apples in the coming month.

**RELIEF CENTRE GETS U.K. GIFT:** The Swedish Organisation for Individual Relief (SOIR) in Sweden Wednesday received a set of equipment worth JD 5,300 as a gift from the British government. The gift, presented by British Ambassador Anthony Reeve, will be used in the training centre and affiliated workshops. The set will help increase production and provide useful training for students. (J.T.)

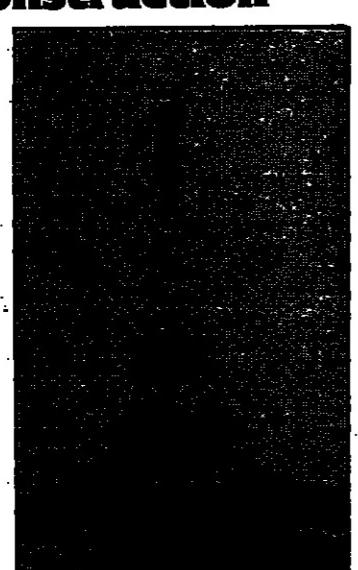
## French exhibition to mark Eiffel Tower construction

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — To mark the first centennial of the construction of Eiffel Tower in Paris, the French Cultural Centre will hold an exhibition during the period from Oct. 1 to Oct. 15.

The two-week event tells the story of the this "Old Lady," known world-wide as the symbol of Paris.

On display at the exhibition will be photographs, drawings and pictures from the archives demonstrating all its aspects, from the very first sketches to its recent blazing lights, illuminating the nights of Paris.

Eiffel Tower was built in 1889 to mark the French Revolution. It embodies the power and the energy of France at the end of the 19th century. Gustav Eiffel and a group of engineers worked hard to accomplish this great job of building the tower. Eiffel himself also built the metallic structure of



New York.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

\* An Indian photographic exhibition — "Jawaharlal Nehru, His Life and Times" — at the Students Activities Complex, University of Jordan.

\* A photo exhibition by French artist Jean-Noel de Soye displaying photos projecting fashion accessories such as jewelry, caps, scarfs and belts, at the French Cultural Centre (the exhibition also displays slides on the history of fashion).

\* An exhibition of watercolours on Jordan by Salma Kamoun at Al Wadid Art Gallery.

\* An exhibition of national heritage which displays embroidery, pottery and brass works, equipment used in ploughing and sowing and traditional costumes, at Al-Mujama'a Vocational School, Al-Tarif.

### FILMS

\* A feature film entitled "Ragtime" at the American Centre — 7:30 p.m.

\* An Italian film entitled "Le Avventure di Pinocchio" at the Hayes Arts Centre — 7:30 p.m.

## Seminar discusses Israeli bid to control Arab farms, fishing

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — Delegates to the three-day seminar on development in the occupied Arab territories Wednesday reviewed seven working papers ranging from water resources to Israel's measures to control Arab farms and fisheries in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

One of the working papers dealt on the problem of water in Jordan whose experiments in rural development could be copied in the occupied Arab lands; and noted that between 50 and 600 millimetres of rain water fall in Jordan and Palestine annually.

The paper also noted that more than 91 per cent of the whole area of Jordan receives around 200 millimetres of rain water annually.

The paper, which was presented by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, outlined the volume of water present in the water basins in Jordan, water projects such as Al Wahdeh Dam, which will have a storage capacity of 225 million cubic metres, and the other smaller dams which already exist in Jordan.

The paper said Karameh Dam has a capacity of 55 million cubic metres; Wadi Al Yabes Dam, seven million; Wadi Kufraijeh, three million; Wadi Al Zarqa, two million; Nakhlah, 13 million; Wadi Al Hassa, 12 million; Wadi Al-Walid, 20 million; and Karrein, three million cubic metres of water.

The paper reviewed other water projects and dams which are under construction, and presented an outline of proper methods for developing water resources in the Kingdom.

The second paper dealt with the Zionist ideology and water strategy, and pointed out that Israel was intent on stealing and exploiting Arab water resources found in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The third paper tackled Israel's military orders pertaining to the expropriation of Arab lands and limitations imposed on Arab farmers in marketing their dairy products.

The fourth paper dealt with the philosophy of enhancing resistance and the role of local leaders, municipal councils and peoples committees. It also touched on matters related to local industries, cooperative societies and voluntary teaching.

The fifth paper was related to the sufferings of people in the rural regions of the occupied Arab lands, and the role of Palestinian women in the socio-economic development process, as well as the on-going intifada and the various problems encountered in this field.

The paper provided proposals and recommendations for reactivating the role of women in these areas.

The sixth paper tackled the question of fisheries in the Gaza Strip, and said that fishermen in the occupied strip produced 250 tonnes of fish in 1986 down from 3,700 tonnes in 1968.

The paper reviewed the reasons behind the decline in fishing, blaming it mostly on Israel's arbitrary measures and restrictions on Arab fishermen.

The seventh paper presents an integrated working plan for the development of fisheries in the occupied Arab lands.

The seminar, which is being

held under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan is designed to serve as a vehicle to provide new ideas to help the Palestinian people maintain their struggle and steadfastness in the face of Israeli aggression and continued occupation.

The meetings are expected to formulate a practical and integrated practical programme that can be applied in the course of development in the occupied Arab lands, similar to those programmes carried out in Egypt and Jordan.

Representatives of a number of Arab, regional and international organisations are attending the meeting.

## Palestinian farming on course despite intifada

By Nermene Murad  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

**AMMAN** — Palestinian farmers received the support of the united leadership of the intifada during their olive picking season this year, and Palestinian food products are finding their way to the European table, according to the president of the Farming Cooperative Councils Union in the occupied West Bank, Tahseen Al Faris.

"We called upon the united leadership of the intifada through local newspapers to decrease violence during the olive season and within a few days, there was a leaflet distributed by the leadership calling on all able men to help farmers pick, store and transport the blessed olives," Faris told the Jordan Times.

The year 1989, according to Faris, was the best olive season in more than 50 years. "We produced 32,000 tons of olive oil, which, in effect, means a national income of JD 46 million from our olive trees alone."

Another farming success story in 1989 is Palestinian produce reaching the European market. "We had a problem in marketing the excess of our produce in the Arab World and abroad, but need is the mother of invention so we created the Farming Cooperative Councils Union," said Faris.

The union brought together 503 farmers' societies which represent 48,000 families, their representatives initiated market research to determine the areas which could absorb Palestinian produce.

"With our limited resources we started establishing assembly stations from which we exported our first trial batch of Palestinian produce to France with the help of the European Community (EC)," Faris said.

He boasted that foreign experts' assessment of the Palestinian produce "was much higher than our expectations. We received \$2,000 a ton because of the quality and packing of our produce."

The only sources of funding, outside the initiative of the farmers themselves, was from the Jordanian Cooperative Organisation in the form of loans.

Faris maintained that the "cooperatives" had a large role in supporting the intifada and that they have emerged as "the infrastructure of the intifada according to American experts who visited us and saw our work."

The cooperatives, according to Faris, have made an effort throughout the intifada to provide citizens with basic foods and staples.

"For example, a cooperative in Nablus changed its farming choice on 18,000 dunums from watermelon to staples to fulfill the needs of the citizens of the West Bank," Faris said. This practice was one of the main reasons why the West Bank was not able to provide its eastern counterpart with watermelon this year, he explained.

Faris and four other members of the cooperatives union are currently in Amman to attend a conference of urban development and the economics of self-dependency in the occupied territories in light of the Jordanian and Egyptian experiences.

He said that representatives from the cooperatives were invited to the conference to "portray the correct picture of the land and its development in the occupied territories and define ways to ensure this development in light of the occupation."

According to Faris, the farmers in the occupied territories need support in finding "markets, heavy equipment, experts and transportation and communication facilities."

These demands would help the farmers to strengthen "the infrastructure of the Palestinian urban areas and will support the steadfastness of man over his land."

Asked what the cooperatives expect to achieve during the Amman seminar, Faris said: "We want to include several items in the recommendations of the seminar;

"(a) Considering the cooperatives as the infrastructure of the development plan in the occupied territories since they are the only public organisation capable of carrying this responsibility;

"(b) Supporting the cooperative morally by considering them as the main representatives of the farming and cooperative sector in Arab and foreign organisations.

"(c) Looking for Arab and European markets for the Palestinian excess produce.

"(d) Extending American and European expertise and help in cooperative and farming training."

## Keilani inspects treatment plants

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation announced Wednesday that it will be taking specific measures designed to eliminate the sources of bad smell which had been polluting the atmosphere and causing inconvenience to the general public in areas where wastewater treatment plants are operating.

A statement here said that a series of measures to deal with this problem was reviewed at a meeting chaired by Minister of Water and Irrigation Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani, who stressed the need to take possible steps to ensure public safety and also the quality of the treated water coming out of the plants, so that there could be no harm done to the

neighbouring environment and the surface and underground water resources.

Attention at the meeting was directed in particular to the Klini Al-Sa'ra, Al-Baqaa and Au Nuseir waste water treatment plants and their immediate vicinities and there was a general exchange of views about the bad smell coming out of them poisoning the atmosphere.

The meeting also examined measures that should be taken to ensure that the treated water can be used for irrigating fruit trees and for other forms of irrigation, according to the statement.

Following the meeting, the minister and a team of officials and technicians made a tour of

the three plants and examined the process of treating wastewater and discussed methods for improving their standards.

According to the statement, a meeting will be held at the Ministry of Water and Irrigation Thursday under the chairmanship of Keilani to review the outcome of the inspection tour and to make a general assessment of the studies to find solutions and make improvements to the plants.

The meeting also examined measures that should be taken to ensure that the treated water can be used for irrigating fruit trees and for other forms of irrigation, according to the statement.

Following the meeting, the minister and a team of officials and technicians made a tour of



Health Minister Zuhair Malhas Wednesday addresses a conference of Arab surgeons in Amman (Petra photo)

## First conference of Arab surgeons opens

## Malhas urges promoting medical specialisations

**AMMAN (J.T.)** — Jordan, like many other nations around the world, is now facing new forms of diseases and the situation calls for closer cooperation among Arab countries to promote the role of medical specialisations and the work of the Arab Council for Medical Specialisations, Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said in Amman Wednesday.

The council's work is now urgently needed to provide training to young Arab doctors and to supervise medical endeavours in the fight against diseases, Malhas said in an address to the opening session of the 17th Jordanian conference and the first conference of Arab surgeons attended by 500 surgeons and specialists from the Arab World and foreign countries.

Malhas, who deputised for His Majesty King Hussein at the opening session, noted with satisfaction the decline of infant mortality rate in Jordan to 35 per thousand, and the drop of death rate due to contagious diseases to a mere one per cent.

Malhas said that deaths from heart diseases last year accounted for 18 per cent of the total number of deaths in the Kingdom, while deaths from cancer registered seven per cent.

Primary health care and preventive medicine have contributed most effectively to reduce

## National team leaves for Iraq

**AMMAN (Petra, J.T.)** — The Jordanian national folk troupe left for Iraq Wednesday to take part in the international Babylon Arts Festival which began last Friday in the ancient Iraqi city.

The 15-member troupe will present several performances of Jordanian songs and Dabke dances. Another troupe from Fuheis also left for Iraq to take part in the festival.

Jordan's participation in the festival is sponsored by the Ministry of Culture and Information which said that the national troupe will present traditions from Jordanian weddings.

The ancient city of Babylon, partially rebuilt under directives from President Saddam Hussein has received scores of national troupes from Arab countries.

The festival organisers expect 150,000 people to attend the two-week performances in the ancient city, located 85 kilometres south of Baghdad.



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### FERTILIZER UNIT INVITATION TO TENDER NO.

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JPMC announces the invitation to tender no. 27F/89 for 7,000 tons of wet aluminum hydroxide.

The tender documents are available at JPMC offices in Amman, Supply Department, as of 12:00 hours today, Sept. 28, 1989.

The closing date for tenders' submission is 12:00 hours local time Monday Oct. 9, 1989.

**Wasef Azar**  
Managing Director

## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

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## Time is the essence

AT A TIME when the entire world is rejoicing over the Lebanese factions' acceptance of the Arab League's seven-point peace plan, it would be prudent to pause for a while to determine whether the guarded optimism already generated is only intended as a respite to quell only the last chapter in the civil war in Lebanon. It will be noted that the Arab peace plan, which the world is acclimating now with unprecedented euphoria as a breakthrough, came about more as a response to the last few months of intense fighting between the warring factions in Lebanon as a panacea to the entire Lebanese crisis. What gives food for thought in this gloomy prognosis is the continuation of voices emanating from within Lebanon that still suggest that the conflict is far from over.

It would be easy to dismiss such negative voices as of marginal importance in the face of the colossal wave of optimism that the beginning of the end to the Lebanese tragedy has finally dawned on the country. The latest spasms of violent flareups are but the epitome of the last dying days of belligerency in Lebanon. All parties have finally succumbed to reason, tolerance and accommodation. That is also why all efforts must concentrate on the objective of consolidating the ceasefire in Lebanon and the fortification of other complementary measures in the shortest possible time. Otherwise, the enemies of peace in Lebanon, and they are numerous, would indeed regroup once again to deal a death blow to what has painstakingly been achieved. In other words, the momentum of peace and reconciliation must be pursued with maximum vigour.

Also, the restructuring of peace in Lebanon must now be built one block at a time. Nonetheless, construction of peace must be conducted expeditiously. Time, therefore, is obviously of the essence lest the foes of peace in the war-torn country succeed in obstructing the process of forging peace. That is the only way to convince the Lebanese factions that the Arab peace plan was never intended only as a prescription for the last six months of bloody fighting but rather as a solution to the Lebanese crisis from A to Z. Now it is up to the Lebanese parliament, scheduled to convene in Saudi Arabia at the end of September, to adopt the necessary new national pact that will end forever the cracks within the Lebanese structure. It is the hope of all mankind that this time the Lebanese leaders will not fail them.

## JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Jordanian Arabic dailies on Wednesday expressed delight over the outcome of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) summit in Sanaa.

Al Ra'i daily said that the agreement reached by the heads of state of Jordan, Egypt, Iraq and North Yemen constitute a very serious plan designed to promote national efforts for unity. In his speech at the summit King Hussein emphasised very important facts, that the Arab people refuse to recognise boundaries within the Arab World, they adhere to total unity, continue to provide support for the Palestinian people in their struggle for freedom and will support the Arab League in its efforts to achieve peace in Lebanon, the paper said. In his speech also, the paper added, the King pointed out that Iraq which came out victorious from the eight year long Gulf conflict, continues to extend hand of peace to Iran and will pursue efforts for stability in the Gulf. The King's speech, the paper said, was clearly an embodiment of the principles and objectives of the Great Arab Revolt which came earlier this century to achieve unity among Arabs and to serve their highest national interests.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily criticises the United States president for placing a very hard condition on Yasser Arafat for issuing him a visa to address the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Ibrahim Sakka quoted a report in the Israeli media as saying that George Bush had asked that Arafat's speech to the General Assembly should not include any attack against Israel or the United States, and that Arafat should give approval in advance to Egypt's 10-point plan to solve the Middle East problem and approval to Israel's right to exist; and to renounce terrorism. The writer says it will not be strange to hear tomorrow that Bush will want to see Arafat's speech censored by the American State Department, and that clearance for the contents of the speech should first be obtained from the American government. The writer recalls on earlier instance when Arafat was denied entry to the United States and was forced to deliver his speech in Geneva, and says that the United States should not be allowed to do such practices because it hosts the world organisation in New York and should not object to any kind of speech directed against any nation at the U.N. assembly because this condition is clearly stated in the agreement that established the world body on U.S. territory. The writer also hopes that the United States will now issue a denial of the Israeli report which is not becoming of a world power.

Al Dustour daily newspaper also commented on the outcome of the Sanaa summit and said that King Hussein's speech voiced the stand of the four ACC states and their determination to pursue the goal of pan-Arab unity. The King said that he felt the Arab masses desire for unity during his visits to Egypt, Baghdad and Sanaa for summit talks, and noted with satisfaction the ongoing process towards integration, leading to an overall unity, the paper said. It said that only if the heads of the ACC countries achieve further steps to serve their people can they continue to enjoy the overwhelming support of their masses. Furthermore, the ACC as the King said in his address, should find means to maintain all forms of assistance to the Palestinian people in their struggle for freedom, the paper said. The paper referred to the situations in Lebanon and the Gulf, which the King tackled in his speech; and said that the ACC was clearly destined to help solve many of the Arab Nation's problems and pave the ground for unity.

## An early warning system called Khalil Salem

By Waleed Sadi

ON JANUARY 27, 1987, Dr. Khalil Salem, the founder of the Central Bank of Jordan, delivered a speech before the World Affairs Council, which he nick-named *dardasha* (chat), on the economic and fiscal dangers that in his view loomed in Jordan's horizon. That was more than two and a half years ago, well before economic and financial tragedy befell the Kingdom. His sounding of the alarm was dismissed by many renowned economists, both private and official, as all were intoxicated by the semblance of good times existing and yet to come. Even this writer was foolish enough to punch holes in the warning issued by Dr. Salem, although Dr. Salem later excused me because of my shallow knowledge about economic matters! Besides we are such good friends that tolerance for short-sightedness on my part was in order.

But let us all recall what Dr. Salem had said loud and clear for all to hear and understand. First, he cautioned in no uncertain terms that continued loose budgeting and unrestrained spending by both the private and public sectors would bring economic and fiscal catastrophes sooner or later. In elaborating his concern Dr. Salem went on to warn that the government should promote exports, stop fancy projects and instead make investment in revenue-generating businesses, and relax its exchange rate to make it more competitive. But the key panacea that Dr. Salem had prescribed then was the need to introduce forthwith a host of sweeping austerity measures. He went on to spell a detailed programme of remedial action which included, inter alia, the urgent need to stem the growing debt problem which he foresaw as developing into an unmanageable monster.

He went on to offer examples of poor investment in schemes, which he referred to as non-lucrative projects such as: the South Cement Factory, the Jordan Timber Processing Industries, the Abu Nuseir Housing project, the Yarmouk University expansion project, the Jordan Fertiliser Company and the Plaza Hotel. He also expressed concern about the growing cost of the Queen Alia International Airport, and the Arab Potash Company.

On the national debt issue Dr. Salem compared the meager loans that the country incurred when he was minister of finance back in 1973 which were in the tune of JD 63 million with the phenomenal figure of JD 1 billion in 1986.

The private sector did not escape Dr. Salem's scrutiny. He observed then that much money was spent on luxury items, the like of building palaces and villas, import of gold and jewellery and cars etc. In this context he noted that 54 per cent of all imports were luxury items.

Dr. Salem also pointed his finger at the first sign of unemployment and the decline of the Central Bank's foreign currency reserves as ominous manifestations of worse things to come.

Unfortunately Dr. Salem's warning was not heeded then. Even while making his views, he was occasionally interrupted by Dr. Hanna Odeh, the minister of finance then. To be sure the entire country did not choose to hear out Dr. Salem and instead choose to ignore his counsel. And this is where it got us, to close our ears to free advice that was clearly motivated by overwhelming anxiety over the economic future of the country. Even as late as May 14, 1987 a noted economist, Dr. Nayed Zabi, ostracised Dr. Salem for preaching belt-tightening and for diagnosing Jordan's ailing

economy as due for none other than the following: Massive imports of which 57 per cent were luxury items, an increase of overall indebtedness by more than 15 folds, decline in foreign currency reserves, huge investments in non-lucrative projects, a rigid exchange policy and linkage of economic issues to political development. Yet these very policies are exactly what the country has had to put with to reverse the downward trend of the Jordan's economy and its fiscal policies.

The moral of the story is that had the country listened carefully to Dr. Salem some two and half a years ago, we would have avoided the extreme measures that were imposed on the national economy. Suffice to mention the national debt problem which has swollen to preposterous proportions before the danger signal was finally sounded. The depiction of Jordan's reservoir of hard currencies was also one of the early prophecies of Dr. Salem and had it been observed then would not have deteriorated to the extent they did. Our discovery that the country and people had been living way beyond their means is now a foregone conclusion. Dr. Salem, the wise man, had called the entire Kingdom to order, but no one believed that things were that bad. And since Dr. Salem was one of the very few who diagnosed Jordan's economic and fiscal problems early enough, one can and should place total faith in his continuous teachings on how to continue and what road to tread on for economic salvation. If apologies are due to Khalil Salem for wantonly disregarding his commandments, one for sure comes from me. What is more important than offering apologies is to take that proven man more seriously from now on. I certainly have learned by lesson, but will others do?

## ACRI moves to end 'disappearances'

ISRAELI security forces

"routinely" fail to notify Palestinian families of the arrest of relatives and their place of detention, according to a petition recently submitted to the Israeli high court by the Association for Civil Rights in Israel (ACRI).

"No law-abiding state can 'spirit away' people and 'hide' them without a trace, even temporarily," ACRI says in its petition against the military commanders of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The petition cites cases in which notification of arrest and place of imprisonment was delayed for weeks, and notes that detainees are not usually informed of the reason for their arrest. This prevents families from obtaining legal help for their detained relatives.

ACRI, which is seeking a court order requiring the military commanders of the occupied territories to give notice of arrests and of places of detention, is joined in the petition by three Palestinians who were not informed of the detention of relatives until up to a month after they were seized. It also cites the experience of the lawyer Osama Zid of Jenin, who in the past six years, during which he has represented hundreds of security detainees, has "never received notice of the arrest of any of his clients."

In recent months, says ACRI, it has received dozens of requests for help from Palestinians trying to locate detained relatives. The army had told ACRI that families were notified of arrests through lists of detainees posted at offices of Israel's civil administration (which administers the occupation), but the petition said that most Palestinians were unaware of the arrangement. Moreover, checks by ACRI revealed that the list in Nablus had pages missing and that the lists in Ramallah and Jenin had not been updated for up to five months. In addition, the lists only included people held temporarily in holding cells, and gave no information on prisoners transferred to permanent detention centres — CAABU

## The Bus Song

THE LATEST hit song in the Gaza Strip is "The Bus Song," which describes the attack on the Israeli bus near Jerusalem three months ago that killed 16 people.

After praising the Nusairat resident who seized the steering wheel of the bus and sent it plowing into a ravine, where it burst into flames, the song continues:

When he called out the name of God  
Repeating Allah Akbar  
He declared a jihad.  
He kept repeating the name of God,  
He turned the steering wheel  
He turned over the bus  
It exploded and killed 15  
And the driver is still in danger...

The song, distributed on cassette, starts with an announcer saying that "the Palestinian people and its leadership denounce any incident that hurts civilians and children. The bus incident was the act of an individual... but as long as the number of your crimes increases, the reactions will be stronger."

The melody is that of a popular wedding song among Gaza and Negev Bedouins. The song was reportedly written by Nusairat residents.

Speaking of the avenger, the song says:  
He denounced deportation  
Before the whole world;  
They called him a terrorist  
The dwarf has forgotten himself  
The Nazi must know  
Tomorrow the child will grow up...  
And take revenge.  
I challenge the world  
It's our turn on our account...  
And my account will grow bigger."

## Lacking form, shape

To the Editor:

REGARDING the poem or whatever it is supposed to be, "Ode to Lebanon," I protest in earnest, for this poem is certainly not within the confines of a poem.

Poems, like all art must have definite form and shape. Even abstract art has some kind of form, but Pauline Swiss's poem is not art, is grammatically incorrect and has no shape even for free verse.

Pauline's sentences have poor and incorrect structure and her meanings are lost and insubstantial. Poetry is a beautiful art and should please not only the artist or poet himself, but all who read it.

I am wondering who proof-read such a poem and why it was decided to be published. I sent you a poem, "The War Mongers,"

E. Yaghi  
Amman

## Vietnamese soldiers happy to be home, worried about future

By John Pomfret  
*The Associated Press*

MOC BAI, Vietnam — Ten years ago, Linh Trang was one of the first Vietnamese soldiers to enter Cambodia in a surprise invasion that toppled the Khmer Rouge government in Phnom Penh.

"It was hell in Cambodia, 10 years of it," said Trang, 33, who commanded a battalion in the guerrilla-infested jungles of western Cambodia. "I'm just glad to be going home."

On Sept. 26 morning, Trang and 10,000 other Vietnamese troops returned to their homeland through the gates of this armed forces, his home for the last 10 years.

"I like a soldier's life," he said as he squatted in the buffer zone between Cambodia and Vietnam.

"I lost my family during the Vietnam war so the army is my family. They feed me and clothe me. I believe in them."

Dang said he hoped he was not demobilised.

Luong Van Dang is a little more sure about what he wants to do, but just as worried.

The 23-year-old from Can Tho province says he will try to stay in the armed forces, his home for the last 10 years.

"I like a soldier's life," he said as he squatted in the buffer zone between Cambodia and Vietnam.

"I lost my family during the Vietnam war so the army is my family. They feed me and clothe me. I believe in them."

Some soldiers even said they will miss Cambodia.

Earlier last week, at a goodbye ceremony at Pursat, a provincial Cambodian capital, Cao Viet sat weeping in the corner as he hugged a Cambodian brother-in-arms.

"We are very close to the people in the countryside," said the Vietnamese officer who spent six years in Cambodia and speaks good Khmer. "We died for these people and they know it."

Major-Gen. Nguyen Van Thai said returning veterans would be given preference in finding work and economic assistance if they had difficulties.

## U.S. drops contras

By George Gedda  
*The Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — Central America's shifting political landscape has produced a more tolerant U.S. attitude towards Nicaragua's leftist government and deepening hostility towards some contra rebels, according to U.S. and rebel sources.

The changed attitude towards the Sandinista government has been subtle compared with the mutual recriminations and finger-pointing that now characterise the relationship between the State Department and some elements of Nicaragua's exiled opposition.

Officials talk disdainfully of the contra leadership mantle has passed from Miami-based civilians to battle-hardened contra field commanders who have risen through the ranks and are far more qualified to represent the armed opposition to the Sandinistas.

By de-emphasising military pressure against the Sandinistas, the United States has moved away from the confrontational policies of the Ronald Reagan White House and is now pursuing peaceful but guarded coexistence.

The shift has embittered some contras. "No one in the resistance trusts the State Department," says Bosco Matamoros, a rebel spokesman who is closely allied with veteran contra leader Adolfo Calero.

Calero was once a regular visitor to the White House and the State Department during the Reagan years but nowadays is treated almost as an outcast by the administration of President George Bush.

Matamoros maintains that the State Department has refused even to answer rebel correspondence while abandoning the Reagan administration policy of avoiding all substantive contact with Sandinista leaders. When a congressional delegation met recently with President Daniel Ortega, a top State Department official participated.

Amid the ongoing debate over when the contras should disband,

Matamoros said the State Department "seems more interested than the Sandinistas in demobilising the resistance."

One continuing source of concern for the administration is Soviet bloc military aid for the Sandinistas, estimated by U.S. sources at \$350 million for the first eight months of this year.

The administration view is that the contra leadership mantle has passed from Miami-based civilians to battle-hardened contra field commanders who have risen through the ranks and are far more qualified to represent the armed opposition to the Sandinistas.

Officials talk disdainfully of the contra leadership mantle has passed from Miami-based civilians to battle-hardened contra field commanders who have risen through the ranks and are far more qualified to represent the armed opposition to the Sandinistas.

By turning its back on civilian leaders who have refused to return to the region and by favouring the emerging military commanders within the resistance, Matamoros says the Bush administration is tacitly advocating a military coup despite its stated preference for civilian supremacy.

The administration's twin objectives for Nicaragua are to support the internal opposition there as the country gears up for national elections and to keep the armed resistance intact until after the Feb. 25 balloting.

The bulk of the rebel force is based at camps along the Honduran border, living off U.S.-supplied humanitarian assistance.

Central American presidents have called for the demobilisation of the rebels by Dec. 5 but the Bush administration regards that deadline as irrelevant because the presidents also said that any such process must be voluntary.

Pauline's sentences have poor and incorrect structure and her meanings are lost and insubstantial. Poetry is a beautiful art and should please not only the artist or poet himself, but all who read it.

I am wondering who proof-read such a poem and why it was decided to be published. I sent you a poem, "The War Mongers,"

SEPT / SEPT

Entrée dans la guerre ou véritable processus de paix, le cessez-le-feu proclamé samedi après-midi au LIBAN par l'émissaire du triumvirat a finalement été respecté depuis quatre jours malgré quelques tirs et «bavures» sporadiques. Beyrouth, dont l'aéroport a été réouvert dimanche après 197 jours de fermeture, a retrouvé en ce début de semaine une atmosphère de calme relatif et d'animation fébrile dans les rues et sur les plages, prises d'assaut par des clients avides de liberté. S'accrochant à l'espérance d'une trêve durable, après six mois de cauchemar, quelque 300.000 Beyrouthins avaient regagné lundi soir la capitale, que leur exode avait transformée en ville fantôme. Le même jour, Lakhdar Ibrahim a lancé le volet politique du plan arabe, accepté en principe par tous les belligérants y compris le général Aoun, en annonçant une réunion des députés libanais samedi prochain en Arabie Saoudite. Sur les 73 des 99 représentants élus de 1972 et toujours en fonction, une soixantaine aurait déjà accepté de prendre part au débat sur un «document d'entente national», selon le président du Parlement, Hussein Hussein. Début purement «consultatif» et sans pouvoir constitutionnel qui devrait précéder, d'après le plan de la Ligue arabe, une convocation de la Chambre à Beyrouth. Le «document» proposé par le triumvirat prévoit notamment l'élection d'un président de la République (dont le pays est privé depuis un an) et des réformes de la constitution permettant un rééquilibrage du pouvoir politique en faveur des communautés musulmanes. Bien que le camp chrétien reste sur ses gardes et demande toujours le retrait total des troupes syriennes pour engager une négociation de fond, les résultats obtenus par les pays arabes ont été salués en particulier par le retour du porte-avions français «Foch» en rade de Toulon. Le bâtiment de la marine nationale avait été envoyé en mission par Paris au large du Liban le 19 août avec d'autres navires de guerre. «Le gouvernement [français] a décidé ce retrait afin de laisser à la mission arabe toutes ses chances d'aboutir», a déclaré lundi le commandant de l'escadre française en Méditerranée. Le président Mitterrand a pour sa part lancé le soir même un nouvel appel à la recherche d'une solution au «drame libanais», estimant que «nul ne peut se résigner à l'éclatement et à l'assèverissement» de ce pays. Un tel cas de figure serait, a-t-il ajouté, «une faute politique aux conséquences lourdes pour le monde entier». Une déclaration prononcée à l'occasion de la visite officielle à Paris de l'émissaire du Koweït, cheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah et qui sonne comme une mise en garde contre toute «faiblesse» à l'égard de la Syrie dans le processus de paix. (Avec agences).

EN BREF

**Eupollution.** Une centaine de salariés de l'hôpital universitaire de Jordanie étaient toujours hospitalisés hier après avoir été victimes dimanche d'une intoxication alimentaire. Selon le directeur adjoint de l'établissement, les troubles constatés seraient dus à l'absorption de nourriture mal congelée et n'auraient provoqué aucune complication inquiétante chez les patients. Par ailleurs, 95 personnes ont été appréhendées et 14 magasins fermés dans le pays après la découverte d'une trafic de graisse dissimulée dans des camions de vidange des égouts. Des tests sont actuellement en cours au ministère de la Santé pour évaluer la toxicité de la marchandise écoulée sur le marché depuis la mi-septembre.

**Transferts de fonds.** Le ministre des Finances, Bassel Jardach, a estimé le week-end dernier que le montant des transferts de fonds des émigrés jordaniens en 1989 pourrait atteindre 850 millions de dollars après avoir dépassé le seuil des 900 millions de dollars en 1988. Les versements effectués par les quelque 350.000 émigrés du royaume, résidant en majorité dans les pays du Golfe, constituent l'une des principales réalisations de devises du pays.

**Union.** Les dirigeants du Likoud et du Parti travailliste israélien ont provisoirement évité lundi l'éventualité d'une rupture du cabinet d'union nationale, évoquée depuis une semaine en raison des divergences apparues entre les deux formations sur l'initiative de paix égyptienne. Bien que le parti de M. Shamir refuse systématiquement le plan Mousharak, les travailleurs estiment que «la solution n'est pas dans une crise gouvernementale mais dans la recherche d'un moyen de rencontrer les Palestiniens afin d'organiser des élections dans les territoires [occupés]».

**DC 10...** La justice française a demandé lundi au service national de contre-espionnage, la DST, de participer à l'enquête ouverte après la destruction en plein vol le 19 septembre d'un DC 10 de la compagnie UTSA au dessus du Niger. Paris penche en effet pour l'hypothèse de l'attentat après que le décriptage des boîtes noires de l'appareil a établi qu'une «explosion brutale» s'était produite en plein vol. L'accident avait fait 171 victimes.

**...Et terrorisme.** Paris a par ailleurs déposé un projet de résolution condamnant les «actes criminels d'intervention illégitime» contre les avions civils au cours de la 27e assemblée triennale de l'Organisation de l'aviation civile internationale (OACI), réunie à Montréal. Enfin des spécialistes du terrorisme, venus d'une vingtaine de pays victimes d'attaques, participeront les 30 et 31 octobre à une conférence intitulée «les citoyens face aux attentats» et organisée dans la capitale française.

**Proposition.** Le patron de la société Yves Saint-Laurent et président du conseil d'administration des théâtres de l'opéra de Paris a lancé mardi une pétition demandant que le prochain prix Nobel de la paix soit attribué «à la population de Pékin». L'année 1989 a été avant tout l'année de la répression en Chine. C'est une date par conséquent qu'on ne peut laisser passer», a notamment déclaré Pierre Berger pour expliquer sa démarche.

**Avertissement.** Le comité intérimaire du Fonds monétaire international (FMI) a adressé en début de semaine un sévère avertissement aux pays, qui ont des années de paiements de leur dette au FMI. Pour la première fois, l'organisation a évoqué une possible exclusion de ceux qui refuseraient de coopérer. Dans un premier temps, le fonds ne leur apportera plus d'assistance technique et leur interdira de participer à l'augmentation des quotes-parts, a déclaré lundi à Washington le directeur général du FMI, Michel Camdessus.

**Dépendance.** Face à une démographie galopante et la baisse de sa production agricole, le monde arabe devra importer 65% de ses besoins alimentaires en l'an 2000, soit 4 fois plus qu'aujourd'hui. C'est ce qu'estiment des experts réunis à Damas cette semaine dans le cadre du 2e congrès des parlementaires arabes pour la population et le développement. Selon eux, les pays de la région auront 300 millions de bouches à nourrir à la fin du siècle contre 210 millions l'année dernière. Or la croissance de la production agricole (2,5% par an), ne suffit pas à faire face à une augmentation de consommation de produits alimentaires estimée à 6% par an en moyenne.

**Ozone.** L'assemblée parlementaire du Conseil de l'Europe (23 pays) a demandé lundi à Strasbourg la création d'un «fonds pour le climat mondial», destiné à aider les pays du tiers monde à s'adapter aux réglementations internationales en matière de protection de la couche d'ozone. Dans une résolution adoptée à l'unanimité des députés présents, l'assemblée des 23 a invité tous les états membres à appliquer des «dispositions plus sévères» contre les émissions polluantes des véhicules et à mettre en place de nouvelles politiques de transports.

**Danse.** Le Jeune Ballet de France (JBF) effectuera en mai et juin prochains une tournée en Jordanie, Irak, Syrie, Egypte et Turquie sous la conduite de son nouveau maître de ballet, Jean-Claude Ciappa. Un voyage qui interviendra après une série de déplacements en Afrique et dans l'Océan Indien en février.

**Alexandrie.** Le bureau d'architecture norvégien «Snøhetta architecture landscapes» a remporté lundi le concours international lancé au début de l'année pour la reconstruction de la bibliothèque d'Alexandrie. 15 projets avaient été soumis au jury, composé de 9 architectes et bibliothécaires.

Il draine les acteurs, les réalisateurs et les producteurs

## Doublage des dessins animés: le boum

**Elles sont trois:**  
deux grosses maisons de production  
et une petite société  
à se partager le marché  
du doublage des dessins animés  
en Jordanie.  
**Un secteur en plein boum**  
depuis 3 ans,  
qui fait peu à peu  
du royaume hachémite  
**L'une des principales plaques tournantes**  
du circuit de distribution  
des séries japonaises  
dans l'ensemble du monde arabe,  
et en premier lieu  
à destination de l'Arabie Saoudite.

Ils s'y sont tous mis. Face à la demande croissante des télévisions arabes et l'enrichissement du petit écran par les dessins animés, les producteurs, les réalisateurs et les acteurs jordaniens se sont lancés dans le doublage. Né en 1982 dans le royaume, ce dernier n'a guère tardé à s'imposer dans les studios d'enregistrement. Depuis 3 ans, le phénomène s'est encore accéléré, au point de devenir un travail à plein temps pour nombre de professionnels.

«En 1988, le doublage ne représentait que 25% de notre activité», remarque Suhaib Elias, patron de «Near East Productions» (NEP), l'une des deux grandes maisons de production andino-syrienne d'Amman. Cette année, il en occupera 60%. Les raisons d'une telle fulgurance? «C'est en Jordanie qu'on trouve aujourd'hui le plus d'acteurs maîtrisant l'arabe classique et qui offrent autant de voix audibles dans l'ensemble du monde arabe», affirme Suhaib Elias, qui en 20 ans de cinéma et de télévision, a assisté à toutes les phases de cette irrésistible ascension. «Il se trouve également que nous avons acquis un savoir-faire qui nous vaut maintenant des commandes de l'Egypte, un pays jusqu'à présent leader dans le domaine de l'image.

Rien ne laisse pourtant supposer un tel développement en 1985. A l'époque, se souvient le directeur général de NEP, la technique était rudimentaire. Je regardais les séries plusieurs fois avant de faire travailler les comédies, qui n'avaient que le script entre les mains et répétaient en aveugles. Il fallait les enregistrer sur bande puis faire le mixage. Bilan: 26 épisodes de 26 minutes chacun exigeant près de six mois. Aujourd'hui, avec l'introduction du monitoring, le tour est joué en 13 jours. «Avec les écrans en studio, la synchronisation est immédiate».

**Le gagne-pain des acteurs**

D'un rendement nettement supérieur, les nouvelles techniques de doublage nécessitent cependant un long travail de préparation puis de répétition en studio, confié à une poignée de réalisateurs jordaniens dont les maisons de production se sont attaché les services. «La plupart des scripts nous parviennent en anglais», explique Mousa Ammar, qui depuis 3 ans a déjà adapté 20 séries pour Arab Tele Media, principal concurrent de NEP.

**Sous moyen de survie pour certains acteurs, le doublage exige souvent 10 heures de présence continue en studio (à gauche). Copie de cassette à Near East Productions, dont 16 pays arabes sont aujourd'hui les clients (à droite).**



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Stéphane de Monte-Carlo, poursuit-il. Mais les factures défient toute concurrence. Les Français, notamment, vendent à prix d'or et ne se rendent pas compte de l'étroitesse de notre marché. Un argument que reconnaît Mustafa Abou Ali, dont la société de production, «Bissau Audiovisual Company» (BAC), créée en 1987, est la dernière née en Jordanie. «Le prix moyen d'un épisode japonais tourne autour de 1.000 dinars par mois. En Europe, c'est 30% plus cher».

Le patron de BAC regrette néanmoins l'hégémonie des séries japonaises. Cinéaste palestinien, converti «momentanément» en producteur de «cartoons», Mustafa Abou Ali préfère la qualité à la quantité. «Je n'ai doublé que deux dessins animés en un an, dit-il. Le premier est alterné et le second, «Il était une fois la vie», est une émission scientifique coproduite par la France, le Canada et de nombreux pays européens. Je suis fier de nos commandes», clame Suhaib Elias.

«Beaucoup abandonnent très vite», affirme Nasser Anani, qui depuis 1982 passe l'essentiel de ses journées derrière les micros. D'autant plus rentable que les deux compagnies achètent presque exclusivement leurs séries au Japon, leader mondial du dessin animé. Des 312 épisodes déjà doublés par NEP, plus de 80% sont d'origine nipponne. «C'est ce qui se fait de moins cher», explique Suhaib Elias, en montrant du doigt la cassette de «Lady Lady», qu'un technicien de sa société achève de copier pour les dessins.

«Nous avons également acheté deux séries néerlandaise et espagnole cette année au festival de

Dans un premier temps, nous faisons traduire. Ensuite il faut réécrire les passages où le texte arabe ne s'ajuste pas aux mouvements de lèvres des personnages. Ce n'est qu'une fois ce travail minutieux terminé que peut commencer le doublage en studio».

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Après 4 ans d'études de comédien et de metteur en scène au Caire et 4 autres années d'expériences dans des feuilletons radiophoniques et télévisés, Nasar a cependant accepté de se

dancer dans cette galerie». «Au tout début du doublage, on est venu chercher ma voix, rappelle-t-il. A l'époque, il s'agissait d'une nouvelle expérience plutôt intéressante. Pour un acteur, c'est un vrai plaisir de jouer avec sa voix et d'interpréter 3 ou 4 personnages à la fois. Mais c'est un boulot taunt». Tuant et lucratif: «En travaillant sans relâche chez les uns et les autres, j'arrive à gagner plus de 1.000 dinars par mois», reconnaît-il.

### Quantité ou qualité?

NEP et ATM se montrent beaucoup plus discrètes sur les profits que leur procure ce nouveau créneau audiovisuel, d'autant plus rentable que les deux compagnies achètent presque exclusivement leurs séries au Japon, leader mondial du dessin animé. Des 312 épisodes déjà doublés par NEP, plus de 80% sont d'origine nipponne. «C'est ce qui se fait de moins cher», explique Suhaib Elias, en montrant du doigt la cassette de «Lady Lady», qu'un technicien de sa société achève de copier pour les dessins.

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Pris dans l'engrenage de la rentabilité, NEP et ATM, attachent bien moins d'importance à de tels critères. Même si, en tant que réalisateur, Mousa Ammar avoue avoir préféré le doublage

Alain Renon.

### Quatre Alsaciennes à l'université du Yarmouk

## Un mois de grand bain linguistique

Quatre jeunes étudiantes de Strasbourg achèveront dimanche un stage linguistique «d'un mois à l'université du Yarmouk». Âgées de 21 à 23 ans, titulaires d'un diplôme de secrétariat trilingue, elles ont depuis longtemps la passion de langue arabe.

Plutôt satisfaits. Installées depuis le début du mois sur le campus de l'université du Yarmouk à Irbid, Saïda, Myriam, Christel et Haldia ont le sourire. Leur stage linguistique de fin d'études, qui s'achève dimanche, leur a manifestement procuré ce qu'elles en attendaient:

«Nous avons eu trois heures de cours chaque jour, rencontré une multitude de gens, pu parler et entendre la langue. C'était ce que nous voulions», clament-elles unanimes. Plus encore: au terme de leurs deux années d'études de secrétariat au lycée René Cassin de Strasbourg, ce stage leur a permis de «s'immerger dans une autre culture» et de «sentir la langue dans son milieu».

**25 ans sous un parasol**

### Ahmad Salem, écrivain public

La carence des uns fait parfois le bonheur des autres. Le manque de fonctionnaires, mis au service du public pour mettre en bonne et due forme demandes de passeports et autres requêtes officielles, a ainsi vu fleurir la profession d'écrivain public. Pas nécessairement un métier de «plein air» qu'Ahmad Salem exerce depuis déjà 25 ans.

Dans toutes les rues qui mènent au dépôtement des passeports près du premier cercle à Djebel Amman, s'étaisent une multitude de parasols, de tables et de chaises, domaines des écrivains publics. Parmi eux, Ahmad Salem, 53 ans.

Fonctionnaire au ministère des Travaux Publics au début de sa carrière, Ahmad Salem a démissionné en apprenant sa mutation à Ma'an. Emigré en Arabie Saoudite pendant un an et demi, il a dû rentrer précipitamment au pays... et chercher un nouveau travail.

«Que faire quand on a à peine fini ses études élémentaires?», questionne-t-il. La réponse s'est imposée d'elle-même, via la famille. L'un de ses parents, déjà écrivain public, lui a proposé de travailler avec lui. Ahmad a accepté et a appris les ficelles du métier.

Le principe est simple: il faut écrire, à la commande, des lettres officielles et les timbrer, ou remplir des documents. Le «secret» de l'écrivain résidant dans sa maîtrise des formules incontournables, que la grande majorité des gens ignore. «Si des clients de tous les milieux sociaux et de niveaux culturels très différents», souligne Ahmad Salem.



certaines écrivaines abusent de leur situation de «passage obligé». Malgré un tarif fixé à 250 fils par document rédigé, ils réclament le double sinon le triple. Et arrivent à empocher jusqu'à 400 ou 500 dinars par mois. Ahmad Salem, lui, affirme ne pas dépasser les 120 dinars par mois. Ses revenus, assure-t-il, lui ont permis d'envoyer tous ses enfants au lycée et d'offrir des études supérieures à la plupart d'entre eux. Propriétaire de sa maison, dans la plaine de Baqa, il se dit satisfait de son métier. Même s'il lui faut travailler de 8 heures à 14 heures pour bien gagner sa vie. «Mes seuls jours de congés sont les jours fériés», ajoute-t-il.

Malgré un rythme de travail astreignant, Ahmad Salem ne se voit pas le moins du monde changer de profession. A l'instar de ses collègues, il est attaché à son caractère et a appris les ficelles du métier. Carné, souligne Jean-Pierre Maury. Le réalisateur François Truffaut fait l'objet d'une émission entière. Même chose pour l'acteur Michel Simon. D'autres sont plus thématiques, comme les rendez-vous consacrés aux femmes cinéastes (dont Agnès Varda, Yannick Bellon et Diane Kurys) ou encore à la nouvelle vague. Réalisé par Mohammed Abdalla, «Silence on tourne» sera prochainement doublé en arabe et diffusé sur la première chaîne à la fin de l'année.

### Télévision “Silence, on tourne”



Quarante ans de cinéma français vont défilé sur le petit écran à partir de dimanche prochain. «Silence, on tourne», proposé par la deuxième chaîne dans le cadre du programme en langue française, se veut le reflet d'un demi-siècle de films clés, de chef-d'œuvre signés Jean Renoir à Bertrand Tavernier. Un reflet fragmenté en 13 rendez-vous hebdomadaires d'un quart d'heure, dans un

# Features

## War, drought, bad administration combine to endanger Cambodia

By John Pomfret  
The Associated Press

PURSAT, Cambodia — Ravaged by two decades of war and bloody revolution, some Cambodians are being squeezed by a drought expected to cut rice and fish cultivation by 25 per cent and threaten some areas with starvation.

And the apparent lack of local-level administration to distribute whatever scarce resources remain, and the prospects for this nation of 8 million appear even bleaker.

"If the war won't kill you, then you might die because of no water," said Treang Suon, a 37-year-old mother of four from Veal village in Pursat province, 150 kilometres from Phnom Penh. "And there is no government to help us along."

Interviews with peasants, government officials, teachers and Western aid officials in the provinces of Pursat and Kampong Chhnang painted a dark picture of Cambodia's future.

The country appears poised to slide into a new phase of civil conflict now that the Vietnamese, Cambodia's occupiers for the last decade, say they will withdraw the last of their troops soon.

Fighting between Cambodian government troops and guerrillas from the Khmer Rouge resistance group is already intensifying in

Battambang, northwest of Pursat. And a Western doctor in Pursat said his hospital has seen a two-fold increase in gunshot wounds over the past two months.

"Now we average about five a day," he said. "The Khmer Rouge are moving about very freely, and the peasants are scared."

The economy also is in deep trouble.

Fish cultivation and timber production have fallen in Pursat for two straight years. Due to the late and light rains this year, production of rice, the staple crop for the whole country, also is sure to fall.

Indeed, the catch in Pursat province fell 41 per cent between 1987 and 1988 to 4,120 metric tonnes, said Khang Heang, vice-chief of the provincial committee. A further drop in 1989 is expected, government officials said.

They still fish in nearby Veal village, but residents no longer wander into the forest near Ro Leap to cut hardwood timber and bamboo for their homes.

Land mines, placed by both the government and the Khmer Rouge, are a deadly hazard.

"The folks near the lake don't come up here anymore," Ty Chouk said. "Only we know where the government mines are because we laid them in the

ground. Other villages are too scared to risk their lives. Even we don't go into the high areas anymore. That belongs to the Pol Pot people (Khmer Rouge) and their mines."

But the biggest loser will be Cambodia's people.

The Muslim people of Ro Leap village used to take the half-day walk over palm-lined paths and verdant paddies to lake Tonle Sap to fish the bountiful waters.

But bands of Khmer Rouge and the drought have made the risks outweigh the gains.

"We buy our fish now and only eat it on special occasions," said Ty Chouk, a 37-year-old farmer. "We used to fish every day."

Government policy to forcibly conscript many young men has dealt a further blow to rice cultivation and all other agricultural pursuits.

San Poen, a 43-year-old father of four, had his two sons taken away by the military.

"They were rounded up after a movie show," he said. "It is good that they are serving the country, but I need them too to farm the fields. I had to drop some land this year and am farming less. So we will have too little to eat."

Khang Heang estimated that rice cultivation in Pursat would fall by 10 to 25 per cent.

## Poor housing leads to death of Venice

By George Armstrong

DEATH IN VENICE last week was gloomily recorded in *Il Gazzettino*, the city's 103-year-old newspaper, with a banner headline exclaiming "Historic Centre: below 80,000!", referring to population loss as residents flee from the difficulties of living in the Italian lagoon city so adored by tourists.

Venice has lost more than half its population in the past 40 years. The death of another six residents and no births has brought the population down to 79,994, officials announced.

Many Venetians, particularly the young, have been leaving for

the mainland because of expensive food and housing and difficulties of transportation and re-creation.

In the 1,000 years of the Venetian Republic that ended under Napoleon in 1797, the population hovered around 200,000, making it Europe's second or third city. In 1951, there were still 174,965 residents, in 1961 the figure was 137,710, and ten years later 108,426. Last year there were 472 births in Venice, and 1,256 deaths.

In surveys in Italy and other Community countries, Venice is judged among the top three most desirable places to dwell — by people who have not dwelt

therein. The basic problem is housing for young couples, and for all the people who hold the 58,000 jobs in Venice.

About 30 per cent of the people working in Venice must commute from several cities on the mainland. The water-bus system serving the Grand Canal offers an enchanting view to visitors, but is inadequate during the commuter rush hours.

The trouble is that ground-floor flats are often uninhabitable because of the frequent high waters (about 50 times a year), and because owners have not taken preventive measures to hold back the tides.

Parliament allocated Venice funds between 1984 and 1988 that

included money for the restoration of fair rent dwellings. Less than a fifth of the total was spent.

In the 1,000 years of the Venetian Republic that ended under Napoleon in 1797, the population hovered around 200,000, making it Europe's second or third city. In 1951, there were still 174,965 residents, in 1961 the figure was 137,710, and ten years later 108,426. Last year there were 472 births in Venice, and 1,256 deaths.

In surveys in Italy and other Community countries, Venice is judged among the top three most desirable places to dwell — by people who have not dwelt

therein. The basic problem is housing for young couples, and for all the people who hold the 58,000 jobs in Venice.

About 30 per cent of the people working in Venice must commute from several cities on the mainland. The water-bus system serving the Grand Canal offers an enchanting view to visitors, but is inadequate during the commuter rush hours.

The trouble is that ground-floor flats are often uninhabitable because of the frequent high waters (about 50 times a year), and because owners have not taken preventive measures to hold back the tides.

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## Focus on People

### Not the same

By Marjan M. Shahin

**FOR THE LAST DECADE** and a half Tujan Faisal has lobbied to uphold the rights of Jordanian women and children as they are declared in the constitution. When justice and the law conflicted she vigorously campaigned for justice. This week she talks to Focus on People about her long road to resolution.

Tujan Faisal, born and raised in Amman graduated from the University of Jordan in 1971 with a bachelors degree in English literature. After graduation, Tujan turned down an offer by Jordan Television to work as a programme announcer. "I told them I would not just sit in front of a camera and read things; someone else had written as if I was a talking ornament," she recalls. After heated discussions with the JTV officials, Tujan was assigned a panel programme in which books that she chose were discussed by the participants. She recalls that her audience was much more diversified than had been expected. When asked by a television interviewer about her favourite television programme, an illiterate village woman in the Jordanian countryside rated Tujan's show as her second favourite programme.

Tujan continued with JTV and was later assigned a programme exposing certain social problems in the Kingdom. The programme called "Spotlight" ventured to highlight the problems that face various sections of the society. Tujan recalls two particular episodes that had particular effect. They dealt with the social, economic and psychological problems facing the retired in the society. Highlighting the problems of pensioners on national television led to more concerted efforts for the betterment of this ever-growing community.

Another episode that Tujan thought gave insight to educationalists and parents alike was one that exposed children who "skip school." Why children skipped school turned out to be a subject that in addition to being informative was also embarrassing to both parents and teachers.

The school-skipping episode was followed by a 14-part programme on children. "In the 1970's we did not have summer schools and summer camps and all these activities in which children could participate. Children were playing in the streets and I wanted to highlight that," Tujan recalls.

The famous 14 episodes highlighted many children's issues, not just free time in summer. They focused on the difference in the upbringing of girls and boys, and among other things psychological effects of parents' divorce on children. At one point some of the episodes coincided with the 1979 Year of the Child. Tujan remembers that at the "time, the children's programmes were highlighted a great deal because the United Nations had made 1979 the Year of the Child... and people were 'getting into' the subject. I remember how sad it was because people had needed the U.N. to make children's issues a subject for their thought.

Children don't wait around to become a prominent issue. In a country such as Jordan, where over half the population are children, they should always be afforded a prominent place in social programmes, private enterprises and national planning."

Through open debates in the media, Tujan had already begun to ruffle quite a few feathers in her attempt to bring about some new social reforms to the welfare of children, the old and the retired. But her biggest battle was yet to come. It began when she started her crusade for women rights.

In her capacity as a member of the Arab Universities Women Graduate Club, Tujan had been instrumental in the preparation and organisation of over half a dozen lectures and seminars in the Kingdom over the last decade.

The topics, although varied, consistently dealt with the rights of women and children. Her themes drew attack from certain clerics in the Kingdom who labelled her everything from destructive, perverse, to subversive and apostate. She was accused of promoting the break-up of the institution of the family, encouraging adultery as well as child delinquency.

"I remember we had organised a seminar, with the participation of delegations from Iraq, Tunis and the Arab League in 1984 about the intricacies of a legal minimum age for marriage, child custody in case of parental divorce, the right of a divorced woman to demand alimony in certain cases and the right of a man to take a second wife without divorcing the first one. We wanted to discuss these issues and compare solutions to some of the different obstacles that we were all facing as women in the Arab World," Tujan recalls.

"The seminar was scheduled to open on a Saturday morning. On the Friday before, speeches in mosques all over Amman were made condemning me by name, accusing me of being subversive and destructive to the holy institutions of the society. Certain people had obviously gotten an incorrect idea of what was going to be discussed at our seminar since none of the things discussed were contrary to the Koran, nor the teachings of the Prophet Mohammad. On Saturday morning I opened the newspapers and was shocked to see that clerics were raving on about me even in our press. They had not even bothered to listen before they condemned. Neither the press nor speakers in the mosque addressed any specific issue that was on the seminar's agenda. I personally was the subject attacked, 'how can a woman from west Amman speak about Islam?' they asked. They raved on about my intentions 'to destroy the morality of a pure and clean society with my talk of women's rights'."

The seminar took place with members of the religious community attending. "One sheikh in particular, came up to me after the seminar and told me what a great job our club had done... even if only in a small way I felt vindicated."

Tujan continued her research on social and legal problems facing the society. Sometimes the chosen topics were discussed on TV by the panel she hosted. Many of the topics were controversial and sensitive: child abuse, criminal law vis-a-vis women, women in times of war, the passport issue. The more sensitive the subject the less likely its discussion in the media became — especially on television.

The passport issue however, is one issue that has been pursued vigorously, if to date unsuccessfully.

According to Jordan's passport law a Jordanian woman must obtain a written permission from her husband to obtain a passport. If he so wishes a husband may register his wife in his passport along with his children who are under 18 years of age. Furthermore, it is common practice that a woman's name is changed when she marries to her husband's name. Tujan points out that the law does not support this common practice but it has nevertheless become a common practice. Furthermore, common practice has on many occasions allowed for the continued dependency of divorces and widows. If a divorced woman is registered in the passport to her ex-husband, she needs his permission to travel although she is no longer his wife.

"It is also common practice that after a woman is divorced or widowed her passport will identify her as the ex-wife or widow of so and so. Therefore, effectively stripping her of an identity of her own," Tujan points out.

"How can a woman be considered an equal citizen if she needs a man to guarantee her right to a passport?" Tujan asks. While some of the points such as the ones pertaining to the passport law "directly conflict with Jordan's citizenship law — which allows for the right of a passport to every Jordanian citizen, others are matters of common practice which must be checked and corrected by our governing forces. Still other common practices are directly against the sharia — Islamic law." On several occasions Tujan has made attempts to change the law and encourage government interference on common practices by presenting petitions to the last Jordanian parliament as well as to government ministries...but to no avail. "Now after we made a big row about it, some of the common practices have ceased to be as frequent as before, but it still depends on the willingness of the particular employee and the knowledge of the woman applying for her passport about her rights," Tujan says.

Although she admits that fighting for social and legal reforms is not always an easy task, looking at her three children she says "this is not a question of women wanting to become like men or becoming their superiors, it is simply a question of having equal rights... for our sake and for theirs."



The stones of the intifada

## Casting the first stone

Most Israelis are ready enough to defend their country against invasion but soldiers are increasingly torn over suppressing a popular uprising. David Langsam, himself Jewish, took the unusual — and dangerous — step of living among Palestinians in the villages of the occupied West Bank while his nephew, Jerome ben Shlomo, was patrolling the same area with the Israeli army. Jerome, who first visited Israel on holiday after leaving Westminster School, now lives in the country as a new immigrant, an "oleh chadash." Last year he completed his full 30-month term in the Israeli army as a first sergeant in the tank corps serving in the "security zone" and on the Golan Heights. He had had no experience of the Palestinian villages of the West Bank until called up for 28 days "milutin," annual military service this summer, around Kibbutz. It provided an unusual opportunity for David Langsam to compare the two sides of the intifada. This is his report.

KABATIYA, a village of about 18,000 people, 45 miles north of Jerusalem, was one of the first places in which a collaborator was executed, earning a 42-day curfew as a result. It is in hilly country on a main road linking many Arab towns and villages and Israeli settlements.

Soldiers watch Kabatiya from rooftop posts above the main street and from the house highest on the hill looking down on the village. Jeeps and troop carriers, bristling with M-16s, Galil automatic rifles, tear gas and rubber bullet launchers and machine-guns, patrol the streets. Children throw stones and are sometimes fired on by soldiers.

At night the village is silent except for the braying of donkeys, the occasional barking dog, the pitter patter of little feet hanging Palestinian flags on electric wires and intermittent busses, as masked youths spray political graffiti on the walls. It is a "normal" Palestinian village participating in the intifada, resisting Israeli occupation.

So far, 11 youths have been "martyred" — as the Palestinians describe intifada-related deaths — in Kabatiya. I stayed in the nearby village of Kufri Rai, where six children have been killed. Both villages are dependent on agriculture: stone fruits, olives and olive oil, figs, poultry and goats. The villages are poor and most food is locally produced.

About 50 soldiers are permanently in Kabatiya and when disturbances occur several hundred can be brought from the army base nearby.

Jerome and I had very different experiences, but, like most Palestinians and Israelis, we shared a common denominator of

fear as the run through the fields. Israeli vehicles cruised through the village, stopping at several doors to ask boys to come out. But the shabab — all 1,000 of them — had fled. Curfew was imposed and the village watched and waited in silence as Israeli soldiers searched some of the houses, confiscated microphones from the mosques (used to warn of the approaching Israelis) and shut down the village generators.

The sun setting in the haze and dust cast a tourism brochure rose tinged over the stone houses nestling in the hill, a surreal contrast to the harsh tension. It was the longest sleepless night of my life. I wondered whether Jerome was in raiding party.

Curiously, the Israelis — bristling with weapons — fear the unarmed Palestinians far more than vice versa. The tension in the West Bank and Gaza is much greater than 12 months ago despite (or because of) the massive IDF presence and it is clear that Israel does not occupy the territories. Israel occupies small settlements on some of the hills and for moments in time holds the roads between the settlements and the highways as convoys of workers' buses led by jeeps speed through Arab villages. The occupied territories are already Palestine and every soldier I spoke to who has served there, regardless of political affiliation, agrees.

Jerome faced two fears. His first was that he or a comrade would be physically hurt (and one was) and the second fear was that he might do something to a Palestinian civilian that he would later regret (he didn't).

My fear was similar to the Palestinians, that of being caught in the wrong place by the Israeli Defence Forces (IDF), guilty or not. I arrived in Kufri Rai, just over seven miles from Kabatiya, hot, dusty and thirsty after travelling for several hours. A tray of refreshing mint tea was brought and the shabab (literally "youths," but since the intifada, a second meaning of "activists" has evolved) explained that I had arrived at "an interesting time" — the previous night a collaborator had been killed — the first in Kufri Rai — and an Israeli raid was imminent. Asked when the Israelis were likely to raid, the shabab said "any time." As I raised the much desired glass of tea to my lips we heard a call that soldiers were coming. Twenty

jeeps were approaching.

The boys threw my bags at me and we ran, literally, for the hills. I stopped one of the shabab and told him I couldn't risk being caught with them. Shaking in panic, as boys whistled and women called out warnings directing the shabab away from the soldiers, he gave me the name of a man I could stay with. I sprinted through olive groves, hurling prickly pear and barbed wire fences as I ran, trying to remember the name and begging confused villagers for directions. I found the house and was led to a room from where we could watch the road and the village. As I took photographs I realised my racing pulse was due as much to

the noise of the shabab as to the soldiers.

Within hours of arriving at his base near Kabatiya, Jerome was volunteered for patrol and had

his first dose of fear. "The first patrol was very scary. You have no idea what you are supposed to be doing there, what's expected of you. For me, to be an occupier, to see little three and four year olds bursting into tears and running to their mothers absolutely hysterical, just because you are there, was very depressing. These kids are going to be traumatised for the rest of their lives."

"It's a horrible feeling to be the oppressor — for someone who's been taught the IDF is the wonderful thinking army, the people's army — no less than the Germans were anywhere in Europe."

"The fear of a suspect being arrested at night is unbelievable. I was shocked at how scared they were. I felt as if I was with some South American death squad and that's certainly how they feel. The fear... they talk immediately. One of them was hardly out of his house and he had already started giving us names, addresses, everything. They are sure they are going to die or be disappeared."

"The Israeli's fear in the territories is partly justified, but quite disproportionate. They face children with stones, not soldiers with guns. The numbers of Israelis killed and injured during the intifada is still relatively low and nearly as many have been hit by their own side as by the Palestinians."

Jerome says his unit was able to catch 17 stone-throwers without one injury. Ami Dar asks whether the fatal injuries are caused because "our troops don't know how to shoot — or is it that some of them can shoot all too well?"

The humanitarian soldiers probably do act as a brake on their less caring comrades. But from the Palestinian point of view, Israeli soldiers are unpredictably violent. They don't see differences between IDF units, most of which have both heads and humanitarians. Soldiers all wear the same uniform.

While Jerome had several positive encounters in Kabatiya, from an impromptu half-hour soccer match played in an alleyway (Palestine 6, Israel 0), to using a rubber bullet canister to shoot sweets to a group of four year olds, the Palestinians discount the events entirely. They only notice the continued and unwanted occupation.

"Here in the village we have no relations with the soldiers," said one Kabatiya villager. "There are

no soldiers considered as decent soldiers. Whenever we leave the house we have no feeling of security, because at any time a soldier might ask to check our identity card or (order us to) wipe the walls or (to) spend two days in the detention tent or be beaten."

"I'm very thankful that no-one got hurt from our fire, but being there... we were very scared. The jeep was hit by a lot of rocks. Our lives were definitely in danger."

There was only one other time when Jerome says he saw the justified use of live ammunition. Surrounded by stone throwing youths, an officer said he would shoot at one of the leaders rather than call for reinforcements. "He very calmly said, 'I'm going to injure him in the arm and they will stop,'" And they did.

"It was minimal use of force to stop what could have been a very ugly situation. If we'd called for backup, I'm sure there would have been a pitched battle."

"This place is like the Wild West. It's like playing a part in a Western movie and we're the bad guys. It's unbelievable. You have the gun and the law is the gun. And we're not that kind of people. Most soldiers are not. Unfortunately there are those who enjoy it."

Another reservist, Ami Dar, wrote to the Jerusalem Post earlier this year that in 20 days on patrol in the "hot" Nablus Casbah his squad arrested a score of Palestinians, wounding several in the leg according to IDF instructions, but didn't kill anyone.

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# Economy

## U.S. marks 5 nations for debt cuts

**WASHINGTON** (Agencies) — The United States Tuesday singled out Costa Rica, Venezuela, Morocco, Uruguay and Chile as active candidates for debt reduction under a plan announced earlier this year.

Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said the five countries have already begun work toward new financing packages under the U.S. debt reduction proposal, which bears his name.

"While reducing debt burdens has the emphasis of many, new financing is still important for many countries," Brady told the 152 governments in the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Brady proposed last March to give commercial banks a choice of reducing debts owed to them, reducing interest rates on them or lending new money to pay interest at the old rates.

Venezuela owed \$36.5 billion at the end of 1987, the last year for which full comparable figures are available. Venezuela had been asking that its debt be cut in half, but in recent days officials have been saying they would settle for a smaller cut.

Chile's debt was down to \$21.2 billion, in part because of its willingness to let banks use the money owed to them in dollars and other hard currencies to change it into Chilean money and use it to buy up property. Some

countries object to these "debt-equity swaps," saying they add to inflation.

Brady said debtor countries need more investment, and the return of capital their citizens have sent abroad.

"And debt-equity swaps offer debtor countries important vehicles to channel such resources into their economies," he added.

Morocco owed \$20.7 billion in 1987, Costa Rica \$4.7 billion and Uruguay \$4.2 billion. All have been negotiating with creditor banks. Reductions, or repayment delays, on money they owe to other governments are negotiated through the Paris Club.

Brady warned against either banks or debtor countries expecting too much.

"Excessive expectations can only promote delays, increase the risk of breakdown in negotiations and ultimately raise economic costs to the banks and debtor countries," he said.

He had another warning about the whole idea of debt reduction.

"Debt reduction can not be seen as a cure-all for the economic problems of debtor countries," he went on.

"It can not assure economic prosperity. Rather, debt reduction is meaningful only if it supports the economic reforms that are the key to long-term sustained growth," he explained.

Mexico was showing the way forward. Since it clinched a deal in July with its commercial bank creditors to reduce part of its \$52.7 billion in medium- and long-term debt, \$2 billion of flight capital had returned and investors were pouring money into the country.

The message is plain: The benefits to Mexico go well beyond the terms of the agreement," Brady said. "A cloud has been removed from Mexico's horizons, and the world knows it."

He told banks to pull their weight and lend to the Third World, but many banks have said they want to do the opposite.

IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus said that commercial banks should support the Brady plan and said they needed to reaffirm their commitment to continued new lending.

"The banks should not think that reticence on their part will lead to a larger contribution from the multilateral organisations," he said.

But bankers' reactions to the Mexican package have shown that they want to cut the loans but



Nicholas Brady

ments, as they often do through the Paris Club is not enough.

They should also make reductions, he said.

"Such action would serve as an effective demonstration to the commercial banks that governments are prepared to do what they are demanding from commercial banks," he said.

The World Bank estimated that last year about \$30 billion of Brazil's \$120 billion debt was owed to governments. In other countries, debts were in reverse proportion: Poland owes \$3 out of every \$4 in its \$42 billion debt to governments.

Meanwhile, Brazil's finance minister has urged governments and private banks to forgive debts.

Finance Minister Nailson Da Nobrega suggested to creditor governments that delaying repay-

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Some creditor countries have forgiven debts. West Germany has reduced the amount owed it by about \$4.5 billion in recent

## Japan announces \$300m human resource fund

**WASHINGTON** (R) — Japan announced Tuesday it would give the World Bank \$300 million over the next three years to train people in poor countries to help their nations develop.

"Japan is now prepared to contribute a total of about \$300 million... for a special fund in the bank," Japanese Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Japanese officials said the idea for the fund sprang from Hashimoto's experience in a post-war Japan that grew into an economic power, boosted by capable people.

Many Japanese educated abroad contributed greatly to the development, one official said, adding: "It was the people that



Trading at Zurich's stock exchange

## Swiss plan electronic bond trading in '91

**ZURICH** (R) — Switzerland's three major stock exchanges announced plans Tuesday to switch bond trading from exchange floors to computer screens in 1991.

If the project gets official approval, bond dealers in Zurich, Geneva and Basel will no longer go to the exchanges but will stay at their banks, transacting deals over their screens.

"We can't go on as we are now. We have capacity problems and must create space. We're bursting at the seams," Gian Pietro Rossetti, chairman of Association Tripartite Bourse (ATB), told a news conference.

It declared that "society is impatiently awaiting speedy action by officials against those who engage in such destructive activities." People are not irritated by economic bottlenecks, but by the plunderers. The black market and the capitalists have no other objective but to destroy the country's economy and double the people's suffering," Abrah de-

The three exchanges, which set up ATB to coordinate technical projects, want to free more floor space for other business such as a growing trade in share warrants.

The electronic bourse system (EBS), as the new bond trading set-up will be called, will come three years after the opening of the Swiss Options and Financial Futures Exchange (SOFEX), the world's first fully-automated options trading and clearing system.

SOFEX made news early last month when its computer system failed for several days, forcing dealers to return to conducting business by telephone.

The EBS will be developed at an estimated cost of \$4.9 million Swiss francs (\$21.2 million).

Approval is being sought from Cantonal bourse authorities, and member banks of the three exchanges will be asked to give a final go-ahead by the end of October.

Rossetti said a recent survey

found only four of the 54 banks who replied opposed or had reservations about the project.

Reflecting known resistance from many banks to transferring share deals to screen trading, Rossetti predicted shares would still be traded on exchange floors at the end of the century.

## Dinar seen in 'healthy state'

By Ghadeer Taha  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

**AMMAN** — Following the successful rescheduling of Jordan's immediate foreign debt repayments to major creditors and the receipt by the Kingdom of substantial Arab aid, the Jordanian dinar is in a "healthy state," according to economists and analysts.

"There are various reasons to why the dinar has attained stability at a reasonable rate, and the situation does not hold out any immediate pitfalls," an economist told the Jordan Times Wednesday. These include a better balance in the supply and demand situation for foreign exchange and almost non-existent speculation against the Jordanian dinar.

The rescheduling of Jordan's debt repayments for the year 1989 and 1990 to the Paris Club of government lenders and the London Club of commercial creditors has contributed heavily to the dinar's position by improving the supply and demand position in the foreign exchange market.

According to Finance Minister Bassem Jardaneh, Jordan has not only reduced its debt and interest repayments but will also post a surplus in its balance of payments for the year 1989.

"Now we have managed to reschedule to \$700 million in debt repayments and interest for the year 1989 and we have received substantial higher Arab aid than the \$296 million we had expected," Jardaneh said last week. "The fundamentals of the Jordanian economy as they stand today are encouraging."

Economist Faiez Fawzi also sounded a positive note. "Things are very stable, there is stability," he said. "There is a trend for a stronger stable dinar."

The dinar's stability has been the priority for the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) in the last three months. It implemented a policy of repeated market intervention at varying amounts at unscheduled times as events warranted, and managed to raise the dinar's value against the dollar by almost 25 per cent since early August. It also managed to do away with a major part of the black market for dollars. And the country's foreign exchange reserves have been brought up to over \$500 million, from \$140 million in May.

The dinar hit an all-time low of 900/920 fils to the dollar in the black market in Amman in the last week of July, mainly as a result of speculation on the currency, according to analysts. But today these speculators are selling their dollar at a loss or just holding them. The dollar was set at 611/617 fils Wednesday in the first tier of the exchange system which covers essential imports and certain specified areas.

CBJ intervention was made possible by Arab aid extended to the Kingdom. In addition to Saudi Arabia's outright grant of \$200 million, Jordan also received, since April, a total of \$50 million from Kuwait, \$70 million from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and \$20 million from Oman (another \$10 million is in the pipeline, according to sources), and Iraq paid \$40 million in addition to its monthly payments of \$20 million in repayments of its \$235 million government debt to Jordan.

Although the dinar rate has been steady for over three weeks, Jardaneh sounded a caution note. "There is a danger that rumors and speculation could damage the dinar," he said. But he voiced optimism that talks between the CBJ and its counterparts from the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) members would succeed in attracting deposits from the GCC central banks to boost the Kingdom's reserves and help counter "any speculation" against the Jordanian dinar. Negotiations are continuing between the bankers, and there is a very good chance that major deposits will be made, according to an official source.

Economist Fawzi sounded an even more optimistic note against speculation on the dinar. "In the short-run at least there would be no specification," he said. "No one is expecting any surprises."

There is no pressure against the dinar since there is no speculation whatsoever at this time," said another economist.

All the analysts interviewed by the Jordan Times agreed that the black market was playing a very negligible role in the market. The black market rate for dollars was quoted at 750 fils Wednesday, higher than the official rate. However, there is little demand. "The black market is almost non-existent," Fawzi said.

The black market is not even necessary anymore," an analyst said.

"The supply and demand situation is balanced now," he added. He explained that the market did pick up when Jordanian students studying abroad were ready to go back to college and needed foreign exchange abroad beyond the limitations set by the CBJ, but now "things have quieted down."

The next priority for the CBJ, according to bankers, is setting a unified exchange system before the end of the year.

"The ultimate rate is around 650 fils (to the dollar), not around the 500 as previously set by the CBJ," said the chief dealer at a major Amman bank. "There, they will reach a unified rate by November or December this year."

Others expected the unified rate to be set by November, around the time when a team of International Monetary Fund (IMF) experts are expected here for a review of Jordan's monetary measures. Jardaneh and CBJ Governor Mohammed Saeed Al Naqash are currently attending an IMF and World Bank "review session" on the Kingdom's economy and the measures it has adopted to address its economic problems.

Fawzi also expected a unified rate by the end of the year but predicted a lower value for the dinar. "I think the unified rate has to be around 700 fils to the dollar," he said. "Anything less will mean that the dinar is overvalued."

In the meantime, the issue of reopening private money-exchange houses is being debated by officials. Informed sources said the government was studying a totally new set of regulations to govern money-changing houses, which were closed down late last year. The careful approach of the government is too obvious to economists, who expect no immediate action. "The Central Bank would be sceptical to introduce new elements," said Fawzi. "They are happy the way things are."

Another economic analyst said he expected permission for fewer but larger money-changing houses to operate. However, he said, "I do not expect them to reopen soon."

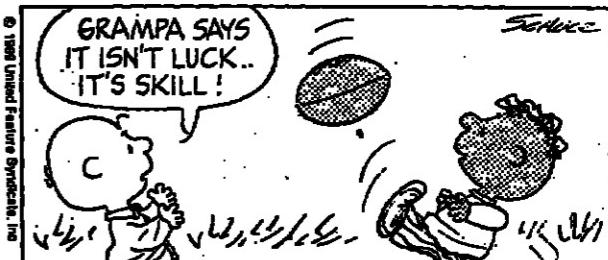
**Jordan Times**

**Tel: 667171-6**

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Harris

"Marriage is a 50/50 proposition. Monday it was 30/70. Tuesday it was 25/75. You owe me 45!"

Peanuts



Andy Capp



**JUMBLE.** THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME by Harry Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**VOLEH**

**DUGIE**

**AFAIRS**

**TELRTU**

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer to **THE BETTER HALF** (Answers Monday)

Yesterday's **Jumble:** GRAIN MOUTH DOUBLE HITHER  
Answer: What the guy who was her "ideal" became after they got married—HER ORDEAL

# Sports

JORDAN TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28-29, 1989

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1989  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** One is too apt to have a chip-on-the-shoulder attitude today without really understanding why or knowing the reason for it. Stay on step ahead of the group by being cheerful, helpful and alert.

**ARIES:** (March 20 to April 17) You would be wise to think more how you can put your work across while you are doing your job... You will have good ideas today how to invest your money.

**TAURUS:** (April 18 to May 19) By injecting charm into your approach to your duties, you will be able to do a much better job. Avoid pleasure today in which you will have to spend considerable money.

**GEMINI:** (May 20 to June 20) Your talent at your work are sure to be at a new high now so be outgoing. A sense of business experience will help you with your financial affairs right now.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 21 to July 21) You will have some wrong ideas about your work today. Your ideas about putting a deal across will be able to make you more money.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) You will do well at your work today if you avoid angering a highly placed individual. You will need to get a better well-rounded understanding of a condition before you will be able to get the money.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) A new method or invention will make it much easier for you to go along with your work. Two persons from a distance will come to you for a very worthwhile proposition.

**LIBRA:** (September 22 to October 22) The information you require to do a better job at your work is not quite ready so be patient. A most ingenious business plan can now

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1989

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Confusing, upsetting and deceptive conditions with the full Moon today are likely to test your penetrative ability as well as your disposition as you deal with four Moon squares.

**ARIES:** (March 20 to April 17) At your work today you will be able to combine mental ingenuity with manual dexterity. You are very concerned about financial affairs but don't invest too much at this time.

**TAURUS:** (April 18 to May 19) Ideas given to you by fellow workers will be most helpful to you with your duties today. Tip: Sighfully, new propositions are the best means by which you can add to your income.

**GEMINI:** (May 20 to June 20) Through the inspired work that you now do, you will be able to get an increase in assets. A man with good merchandising ideas will help you put across your finest financial plans...

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 21 to July 21) You will just have found a new way to be more successful at your work and would be wise to continue using this method.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Do not allow yourself to get into a battle royal with a co-worker or fixed troubles will result. This is the day however when you will be able to really enjoy yourself with your friends.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 21) You will now have a dramatic new idea that will help you greatly at your work load. If you want to keep good friends, don't get in a battle with them over money now.

**LIBRA:** (September 22 to October 22) Carrying through with a crea-

## Kasparov vs. computer

**NEW YORK** (AP) — World chess champion Gary Kasparov has vanquished all challengers since capturing the title in 1985, but none of those opponents could calculate 720,000 possible chess pieces arrangements in a single second.

Deep Thought can...

Deep Thought, a chess-playing computer created by researchers at Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, will challenge Kasparov on Oct. 22 at the New York Academy of Art in Manhattan. At least one chess expert thinks the computer could outdo the champion.

"Deep Thought is clearly the first chess computer with the potential to draw blood and defeat the world champion," said chess commentator Shelby Lyman, who helped arrange the match-up.

Robert Byrne, chess corre-

spondent for the New York Times, disagreed: "I would say it is not yet ready to mount a serious challenge to Mr. Kasparov." But that could just be sour grapes—Deep Thought defeated Byrne when the two squared off.

Byrne became the second chess grandmaster beaten by Deep Thought; the first was Bent Larsen of Denmark, the world's 96th-ranked player with an International Chess Federation rating of 2580 based on his tournament performances.

In comparison, the computer's rating from the United States Chess Federation is 2250; the International Chess Federation puts Kasparov at 2775.

Deep Thought captured the 1989 world computer chess championship in Edmonton, Canada. The matchup with Kasparov is part of an annual chess competition sponsored by ASG Computers Inc.

## APARTMENT FOR RENT

Deluxe furnished apartment, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen, L-salon, colour TV, telephone, central heating, intercome & video.

Location: Jabal Amman, quiet residential & safe area, 3rd Circle. Also 2 small bedrooms unfurnished available.

Call: Tel: 641345, from 8 to 9 a.m. 4 to 8 p.m. Friday/all day.

## FOR RENT

Fully furnished de luxe penthouse in Um Uthainah consisting of 3 bedrooms, salon, 3 bathrooms and 12 x 4m terrace with telephone.

For further details please call 678267, 687513.

## DUTY UNPAID CAR FOR SALE

A Volvo 240 GL, model 1988, white, dark blue seats, air conditioned (hot and cold air), power steering, tinted glass, original curtains, radio, recorder, manual gear, and central lock. Used for 26,000 kilometres only with periodic maintenance. The car is in excellent condition. It can be sold with duty paid or unpaid.

For further details please call 814808

## WANTED

An International Organization seeks to employ young, hardworking Jordanian nationals for its Jordan Office. The applicant should be a university graduate with a degree in Finance/Business or Economics. Fluency in English is a must coupled with strong writing abilities. Personal computer knowledge is preferable.

Applications accompanied with a current C.V. and a passport size photo should be submitted by September 30, 1989 to the following address:

Personnel Officer  
P.O. Box 5055  
Amman, Jordan.

## Lendl scrapes through Bordeaux's 1st round

**BORDEAUX**, France (R) — Top seed Ivan Lendl scraped through the first round of the Bordeaux tennis Grand Prix Tuesday with a painfully drawn-out 7-6 (7-2) 6-7 (5-7) 6-1 win over Czech compatriot Karel Novacek.

The U.S. Open runner-up, locking off-form and ill at ease on clay, battled for two sets to find a weak spot in Novacek's baseline game.

"Obviously, so soon after the U.S. Open, I'm not yet used to clay, although I hope to play better than last week in Barcelona," commented Lendl, who was knocked out of the Spanish Open by 12th-seeded Andres Gomez of Ecuador.

Although committing numerous unforced errors, Lendl fought back from 3-5 down in the first set to go on to win the tie-break 7-2.

The second set was another fierce tussle, with both players holding their serves for a second tie-break which went 5-7 to Novacek.

However, Lendl regained his form to win the final set 6-1 and qualify for the second round of the \$255,000 tournament against Lawson Duncan of the United States.

Eighth-seeded Frenchman Henri Leconte, apparently fully recovered from a back operation earlier in the year, had an easy 6-2, 6-2 win over compatriot Arnaud Boetsch and could end



Ivan Lendl  
up meeting Lendl in the quarter-finals.

## MANY VILLAS AND APARTMENTS FOR RENT & SALE

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Wael Real Estate  
Tel: 685342.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
East-West: vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ 7 4  
♥ K 6 4 3  
♠ A J  
♣ A K J 6 4

**WEST**      **EAST**  
♦ K 8 2      ♦ J 10 6 5  
♥ J 5      ♥ 10 9 8 2  
♠ K 6 4      ♠ 7 2  
♣ Q 10 8 7 5      ♣ 9 3 2

**SOUTH**  
♦ A Q 9 3  
♥ A Q 7  
♠ Q 10 9 8 5 3  
♣ 9 3 2

**Void**

The bidding:  
South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 ♠ Pass 5 0 Pass

6 ♠ Dbl Pass Pass

Pass

Opening lead: Four of ♦

It was the late S.J. Simons who first propounded the theory that, if you defer every contract you double, you aren't wielding the ax often enough. However, to double for an extra 50 or 100 points and thereby give away the show is hardly a profitable pastime.

South took the bidding along at a slow pace until North jumped to

three no trump. Since North could hold no more than two kings in the major suits, it was quite likely that he held a high diamond honor. South put his resounding to the test with a slam try of four diamonds, then bid one more for luck after North raised. West's double was famous, and received its just desserts.

West led a trump, taken by dummy's jack. Declarer cashed the ace and was delighted to see East follow a second time. With nothing to guide him, declarer might have come to hand and conceded a trump trick, relying on either a 3-3 heart break or the spade finesse. However, the double marked the king of spades with West, so declarer tried something else.

He ruffed the ace-king of clubs and ruffed a club, then the queen of hearts. Next, he threw West in with a trump. That worthy was now firmly ensnared in an endplay.

A spade lead would be into declarer's major tenace, so West was forced to exit with a club. Since the lead of the queen would permit declarer to ruff and set up the jack for a spade discard, West led his ten of clubs.

## MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE

Deluxe three bedroom apartment for rent located between Fourth & Fifth Circles.

For complete details call 674206

## The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation

has the pleasure to announce the following: The conservatory will offer a classical guitar course to all ages in private and group lessons.

In addition the conservatory has started organising a musical choir for children between the ages 7-12 years. Training will be twice a week for group singing and musical reading.

Registration takes place at the National Music Conservatory, Jabal Amman, behind the Kuwaiti embassy, Tel. 687620.

Last day for registration is Saturday, Sept. 30, 1989.

## FRIDAY'S RACES AT THE ROYAL RACING CLUB-TUNISIA

FRIDAY 29/9/1989 Vol. No. 18

### FIRST RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNER HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight	Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mohammad Hamam Adwan	Faisly	Owner	Basil	56	1- Khalid Hammad Ayad	Borkan	Owner	El Assal	56
2- Hamdan Mansour	M Hamdan	Owner		56	2- Khalid Nazeef Elabdo	Ghazal	Owner	Ahmed	54.5
3- Taief Mashhour El Faiez	N. Zaza	Owner		56	3- Faied Lazzam El Neef	Jamilah	Owner	Mousa	54.5
4- Ziad Rahal	Sinan	Owner		56	4- Thamer Haizza El Hadeed	El Harba	Owner	Jamal	54.5
5- Mohammed Salman Nabawy	Sabah	Owner	Youns	54.5	5- Samy Hadadin	F Hanady	Owner	Jamal	51.5
6- Rabie Adnan A. Hassan	D Rabie	Owner	George	54.5	6- Nimir El Hmoud	Dinar	Owner	Harry	50
7- Awad Nahar Elsayaf	Ghazwah	Owner		54.5	7- Nawwal Anwar El Shalan	Zaldan	Owner	George	50
8- Dr. A. El Nasem A. Wandy	S Maen	Owner	Ahmad	53	8- Raed Khalil Hadadin	Rashid	Owner	Abbas	48.5
9- Raed Yusef Hamdan	F Raed	Owner	Anwar	51.5					
10- Shihad Aly Fokara	N. Nael	Owner	Rashed	51.5					
11- Abdulla Dawoud	Ghobar	Owner	Harry	50					
12- Dr. A. El Hafeez A. Wandy	S. Maen	Owner	Jamal	50					
13- Salm Mohammad A. Rawaa	A. El Jadai	Owner	Samy	56					
14- Mishal Miteeb El Faiez	Hanasa	Owner	George	48.5					
15- Abdullah Ahmad	O. Amdad	Owner	Mostafa	56					

### THIRD RACE 4.50 FOR THIRD & SECOND CLASSES HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mohammad Khalid El Faiez	Kastal	Owner	Hiary	56
2- Barakat Alali	Sahir	Owner	Hiary	55
3- M Hamad A. El Jali	Naisan			

## Sinhalese rebels ignore ceasefire

COLOMBO (AP) — Sri Lankan soldiers began observing a three-day ceasefire Wednesday in their battle against Sinhalese extremists trying to overthrow the government, but the group ignored the truce, killing at least two people.

The government halted military operations in southern and central Sri Lanka for 72 hours, beginning at 6 a.m. (0630 GMT), said military officials who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

The government had hoped the ceasefire would encourage members of the People's Liberation Front to open peace talks with the government.

But less than four hours after the ceasefire began, suspected members of the Sinhalese extremist group shot and killed two bodyguards of Jayasinghe Bandara, a member of the government's provincial council, the officials said.

The gunmen ambushed Bandara's car in Batticaloa district, 130 kilometres east of Colombo, but he escaped unharmed, the officials said.

Suspected Sinhalese extremists also set fire to three government-owned buses in central Sri Lanka, but there were no casualties, they said.

The ceasefire was ordered one week after Indian peacekeeping soldiers in northeastern Sri Lanka suspended military operations against Tamil rebels fighting for a separate homeland there. The Tamil guerrillas so far have honored that ceasefire.



The body of a man floats in a river in central Sri Lanka in what is believed to be the work of pro-government vigilantes fighting the leftist People's Liberation Front.

## Soviets still pose a major threat to the West — Cheney

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Soviet Union is modernising its armed forces and still poses "a major threat" to Western security despite President Mikhail Gorbachev's promised cutbacks and reform, says Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney.

Cheney, releasing the Pentagon's eighth annual assessment of Soviet military strength Wednesday, sounded a note of caution amid the sweeping changes in the U.S.-Soviet relationship.

"While the United States encourages the evolution of... a Soviet Union dedicated to democratic principles, we cannot react unilaterally to Soviet initiatives that are not yet implemented or to proposals which, if implemented, can easily be reversed," Cheney said in the study, "Soviet Military Power."

He said it is "clear that despite the dramatic changes occurring in the Soviet Union and the Soviet leadership's declaration of benign

intentions toward Western democracies, Soviet military capabilities continue to constitute a major threat to our security."

The Soviet Union, the secretary asserted, "continues to upgrade its forces and improve its capabilities."

"Indeed, while some Soviet military units and equipment have been withdrawn from Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union will remain the world's largest military power, even if the general secretary's promised unilateral reductions take place," Cheney said.

The annual study, which in its early editions under the administration of former President Ronald Reagan was derided on Capitol Hill and outside government as propaganda effort, has evolved into a more comparative summary of the U.S.-Soviet military balance. It even acknowledges that the West leads its "arch rival" in areas such as naval



Dick Cheney

However, it also warns that Gorbachev's changes, if enacted, may also prove hazardous to Western security."

If the Soviet leader's economic reforms are enacted without corresponding democratic growth, "the West could face a far more formidable Soviet threat than it does today," the study states.

## M-19 urges to pardon traffickers Bogota

BOGOTA (AP) — The leftist M-19 guerrilla movement is urging the government to end its war against the cocaine cartels, pardon drug traffickers and refuse to extradite them to the United States.

The statement by M-19 was published in a full-page advertisement Tuesday in *El Tiempo*, Colombia's largest newspaper. It also urged immediate negotiations between the government and the powerful drug barons.

There was no comment from government officials.

The government and the army claim the drug traffickers and an estimated 10,000 guerrillas in six leftist rebel groups work together, with the cocaine cartels providing money to the insurgents in exchange for armed protection.

The M-19 proposal was not linked

in the advertisement to negotiations between the guerrillas and President Virgilio Barco's government on a possible peace pact.

Such an agreement would pardon the M-19 rebels and allow them to set by a political party. Talks have been delayed this year because negotiators for both sides were reportedly working out details of the proposal.

Hundreds of tourists also fled the city of Cartagena aboard planes, buses and taxis after a bomb exploded Monday at the Hilton hotel, killing two people.

On Tuesday, a bomb exploded in a supermarket in a Bogota suburb, wounding five people.

In the five weeks since the country's drug lords declared war on the government for trying to break their trade, there have been 111 bombings, mainly in Bogota, Medellin and Cali.

Police say the bombs have kil-

led eight people and wounded 137.

*El Tiempo* said a Medellin judge Monday removed charges against two reputed leaders of the Medellin drug cartel, saying there wasn't enough evidence.

Both are on the U.S. Justice Department's list of 12 drug figures wanted for prosecution in the United States. The judge's action would not prevent their extradition to the United States.

The government made no comment on the decision by federal Judge Francisco Cardenas. The prosecutor said he would appeal the action.

Escobar and Rodriguez were charged with planning the Jan. 25 assassination of Attorney General Carlos Hoyos.

## Quayle: Philippines attacks will not deter U.S.

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines (Agencies) — U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle, outraged by the killing of two Americans in a communist ambush, vowed on Wednesday the United States would not be driven of its military bases in the Philippines by terrorism.

"Let me be very clear and let me be very direct. We will not allow terrorists to drive us from the Philippines," Quayle told an outdoor gathering of airmen at Clark Air Base, 80 kilometres north of Manila.

Quayle made the vow at both Clark and the nearby Subic Bay Naval Base after talks in Manila with President Corazon Aquino during which they agreed to begin talks in December on the future of the two biggest U.S. military establishments off American soil.

Quayle secured the agreement at a meeting with Aquino as police broke up left-wing protests against his visit and arrested at least 15 demonstrators.

Ten people were injured when

dozens of protesters, shouting "Quayle, Quayle go home, bring your base to hell," charged the Clark main gate. They were dispersed by truncheon-swinging riot police.

Rebels Tuesday killed two retired air force officers in an ambush in Tarlac, Aquino's home province, 50 kilometres north of Manila and 20 kilometres from the Clark Air Base.

Ford Aerospace spokesman Norman Black identified the victims as William H. Thompson, 45, and Donald G. Buchner, 44. He said both were retired from the U.S. air force.

They were the fifth and sixth Americans to die in the Philippines the past two years in attacks by rebels who oppose U.S. military presence in the country.

Quayle said the bases helped project U.S. power throughout the Pacific and the Indian Ocean as far as the Middle East.

"You help keep peace and ring the bells of freedom and democracy around the world," he told the U.S. servicemen at Clark.

He told servicemen at both bases, "I am convinced that majority of the people of the Philippines want us to stay."

The ambush victims Tuesday

were employees of Ford Aerospace Corporation, which has a contract to maintain an electronic warfare training range at Camp O'Donnell. The camp is a U.S.-run facility about 80 kilometres north of Manila and 20 kilometres from Angeles City and Clark Base.

Florentino Amorabon, a spokesman for the Philippine constabulary in central Luzon Island, said the assassins of the Americans were believed to be members of the New People's Army, which operates in the area.

In April, rebels killed U.S. army Colonel James Rowe as he was driving to the headquarters of the U.S. joint military assistance group in Quezon City. In October 1987, rebels killed three Americans in simultaneous attacks outside Clark Air Base.

In a statement released Wednesday, the New People's Army called Quayle's visit "part of the intensifying pressure by the United States on the Aquino regime" to extend the bases.

"This pressure covers all aspects, economic, political and military," the rebels said.

## Trains reach Armenia for most food rotten

MOSCOW (R) — Freight trains began rolling into Armenia Tuesday, ending a month-long blockade by the neighbouring republic of Azerbaijan, but much of the food arriving to alleviate shortages was rotten.

Soviet television showed pictures of trains moving into the southern republic one day after President Mikhail Gorbachev warned parliament that "concrete measures" would be taken if the blockade were not lifted within two days.

The blockade has left much of Armenia without fuel, newspaper, matches and most foods. It was imposed last month by Azerbaijan workers in a bid to starve Armenia into submission in the longstanding dispute between the two republics over the territory of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The official TASS news agency said 17 trains carrying cement, building materials, spare parts, timber and iron had arrived by early evening.

But Soviet television said most

cargo could not be unloaded as there was no fuel to operate vehicles.

"We can't unload as there is simply no petrol," A. Kandyan, railway chief in the Armenian capital Yerevan, told a television interviewer.

"If we don't unload things soon, things will really get fed up... who's going to pay for all this?"

Television showed pictures of a consignment of potatoes from central Russia, rotten and full of maggots after spending more than three weeks in the hot Armenian sun.

Industry throughout Armenia has been brought virtually to a standstill by a lack of raw materials.

Private cars have vanished from the roads and even emergency vehicles have been subject to petrol rationing. Reconstruction of areas hit by last December's devastating earthquake has been halted and long queues form daily outside food shops.

In this speech Monday, Gorbachev said there were few signs of an end to the 20-month conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, populated mainly by Armenians but run by Azerbaijan since 1923.

The dispute has proved one of the most intractable of the ethnic quarrels threatening Gorbachev's "perestroika" programme of political and economic reforms.

More than 100 people have died in clashes in both republics and more than 200,000 have fled their homes.

The Communist Party daily Pravda reported Tuesday that motorised division of Interior Ministry troops had been dispatched to Nagorno-Karabakh to support the estimated 4,000 troops stationed in the region since January.

Since the beginning of the year, a Moscow-appointed committee

has been running Nagorno-Karabakh, but both republics have denounced its operation and continued to press their claims to the territory.

## COLUMN 8

### First woman White House aspirant honoured

HOMER, Ohio (R) — Several hundred people turned out for "Victoria Day," honouring the first woman to run for U.S. president, nearly 50 years before women won the right to vote in America. Victoria Claffin Woodhull, born Sept. 23, 1838, also reportedly was the first woman stockbroker on Wall Street and the first woman to speak before Congress, said organisers of Saturday's event.

"Most people do not even know who she is, but she was an example of courage and leadership," said Joseph Berg, president of the Homer Historical Society. Several hundred people gathered at the local library to trade stories about Woodhull and buy and sell T-shirts, caps, plates, bells, postcards and other souvenirs.

Woodhull was the candidate of the Equal Rights Party in 1872, receiving only a few thousand votes. One of her election opponents was then-President Ulysses S. Grant, who was reelected.

"Victoria was a person who believed that blacks and women were people, just like the constitution said they were," Berg said.

### 65-year-old Olympic medal for sale

LONDON (AP) — Medals and memorabilia belonging to Olympic hero Harold Abrahams, whose story was told in the film "Chariots of Fire," will be sold at auction Nov. 21. The gold medal Abrahams won for the 100-metre race in the 1924 Paris Olympics will not be among the items sold, as it was stolen from his home some 50 years after his victory. Christie's auctioneers said that heirs of Abrahams, who died in 1978, had put up for sale some 30 medals, the stopwatches he used during training and his C.R.E., the Commander of the British Empire award bestowed by Queen Elizabeth II in 1957.

Several menus are among a quantity of documents being sold, including one for a dinner held in honour of the Olympic athletes at the House of Commons in 1924.

It is covered with signatures of athletes including Abrahams and Eric Liddell, the Scottish runner who refused to compete on Sundays and was featured in the 1981 film. Also for sale will be a letter from the service of Thanksgiving for Abrahams in 1978 at the Church of St. Bride in Fleet Street.

### 105-year-old 'born with vitality'

SOUTH KINGSTOWN, Rhode Island (AP) — The secret to long life is to be "born with a lot of vitality," says a woman who celebrated her 105th birthday with congratulations from more than 30 friends and relatives. Sadie Farnell received a letter of congratulations from U.S. President George Bush and his wife, Barbara, and a citation from Rhode Island Governor Edward D. DiPietro at her party Tuesday, one day after her birthday. Farnell told stories of her childhood, growing up as the eldest of 15 children. At age 15, she began working as a weaver in the textile mills, where she later met her husband, Francis, who died in 1963. About two years ago, Farnell moved in with Richard Purcell, one of her 10 grandchildren. Farnell said his grandmother has 17 great-grandchildren, 13 great-great-grandchildren and three great-great-great-grandchildren.

### Global weather (major world cities)

	MIN.	MAX.	°C	°F	Weather
AMSTERDAM	13	55	19	66	Cloudy
ATHENS	17	53	30	86	Cloudy
BANGKOK	24	73	36	96	Clear
Buenos Aires	07	44	12	53	Cloudy
CARIO	19	55	25	77	Cloudy
CHICAGO	03	39	21	70	Clear
COPENHAGEN	10	50	21	70	Clear
FRANKFURT	08	48	19	66	Cloudy
GENEVA	10	50	22	72	Cloudy
HONG KONG	27	81	31	88	Clear
ISTANBUL	14	57	25	77	Cloudy
LONDON	14	57	20	68	Cloudy
LOS ANGELES	18	64	23	84	Cloudy
MADRID	16	61	26	79	Clear
MECCA	28	62	46	113	Clear
MONTREAL	05	37	17	63	Cloudy
MOSCOW	12	54	22	72	Cloudy
NEW DELHI	24	75	34	93	Clear
NEW YORK	09	44	22	68	Cloudy
PARIS	13	55	25	77	Cloudy
ROME	14	57	25	77	Cloudy
SYDNEY	12	54	17	62	Cloudy
TOKYO	21	70	28	82	Clear
VIENNA	15	59	20	68	Cloudy

## Police officer held in theft of drugs

SYDNEY (AP) — A police officer responsible for impounded drugs was charged Wednesday with stealing 20 million (Australian) dollars (\$16 million) worth of heroin, cannabis and cocaine from the central police drug registry. Police said in Sydney's central local court that Michael Wallace, 36, siphoned off drugs that had been seized in police raids and then tried to resell them on the black market.